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In Business Update

The amazing Hannah Grace... HOW SWEET HER SOUND!

Hannah Grace.

HANNAH Grace is a Bridgend-born singer who has just released her new single 'Oh River'.

The song follows Hannah's version of the classic Fatboy Slim track 'Praise You' which was released last year and used for Lloyds Bank advertisements.

A graduate of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Hannah has been building a fanbase in the past few years.

With appearances on Dermot O'Leary's Radio 2 playlist and Lady Gaga calling her a 'superstar' on Twitter, her vocals and effortless notes will hook you in and leave you wanting more.

A spokesperson said: "Her new single 'Oh River' is a hint to Hannah's childhood, the meaningful song connects nature and emotions in a mixture of nostalgia and change, perfect to showcase her incredible range.

"The track is Hannah's proudest composition so far and it digs deep into her roots, she even goes as far as to say the song is one of tracks that defines her début album, which that she is currently writing and recording."

Hannah Grace recently played BBC's Biggest Weekend in Perth, Scotland and 'Oh River' her live rendition of the track has racked up over two million views on Facebook.

Follow Hannah on social media at twitter.com/hangracemusic and facebook.com/hangracemusic.

View her YouTube channel and see her perform 'Oh River' and other songs at www.youtube.com/user/HannahVeeBee.

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Newbridge Fields turned pink last Sunday as thousands joined the Race for Life. It was a sweltering day, but the runners still did their warm up – conducted by Andy Burnett. A keen supporter of the day was Halo Leisure, who had a special offer for all the runners. (See page 20 for details).

Photograph by Glyn Evans.
For more images of the day at Newbridge Fields, please turn to page 6.

Pen-y-fai woman dies in car crash

Barbara Rowe.

SOUTH Wales Police is continuing to investigate a fatal road traffic collision that happened on the A4232 in Cardiff at around midday on May 29.

Barbara Rowe, 60, from the Pen-y-Fai area of Bridgend, died following the collision involving two lorries and two cars on the southbound carriageway near Culverhouse Cross.

Mrs Rowe's family, who are being supported by a specially-trained family liaison officer, have issued the following tribute:

"Barbara was a loving caring wife, mother, and grandmother. She loved the family life more than anything."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

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Councillors have cash to support new community project ideas

A BRIDGEND county councillor is inviting community groups to apply for funding towards local projects.

All councillors at Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) have been given £5,000 each to spend in their ward on local projects for the benefit of the community.

Councillors can decide how to spend their share, so long as it meets certain conditions.

Cllr Matthew Voisey, who represents the Oldcastle ward said: "I want to try and ensure it's used most effectively so it may be several groups looking for smaller amounts of funding or one requiring a larger amount.

"Cllr Lyn Walters also represents Oldcastle and if there was a bigger project, we could look at working together and combining our funds."

The fund could be used to make improvements to community assets, such as painting a community room, buying equipment for a village hall or buying planters for the streets.

Other uses could involve improving a community centre or village hall, setting up and publishing a new community newsletter, planning and advertising village walks or buying play and exercise equipment.

It could also be used for holding public events, festivals and exhibitions or setting up a new community activity such as a gardening club or residents group.

A Community Action Fund application form can be found on the council's website *bridgend.gov.uk*

LDR

'18 derelict churches in the county borough'

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) is looking into recruiting a dedicated empty properties officer to tackle the "blight" of hundreds of empty homes across the county.

As of December 2017, there were 1,233 private sector residential properties which had been empty for six months or longer.

Speaking at a cabinet meeting on May 15, Cllr Norah Clark said: "The long term empty properties are a concern, especially where there are no plans to bring them back into use.

"Half of the properties have been empty for six to 12 months and a third have been empty for two years or more, and it is these properties which are of a particular concern.

"Empty churches and chapels are also a consideration as they could be converted into residential accommodation – there are currently 18 derelict churches and chapels across the county borough, the majority of which are in the valley areas.

"These are the reasons why the scrutiny committee believes that in order to progress this growing problem the council should engage a dedicated empty properties officer."

Cabinet members said they shared the ambition to tackle the problem of empty homes and asked officers to look into the plans in more detail.

Council leader Huw David said funding had already been allocated for the officer.

LDR

When *Egbert* the Tank Bank rolled into Bridgend

A blurred image, but still it gives an impression of the size of the crowd drawn to battle-scarred Egbert when she arrived.

GEM reader and former Welsh Guard Douglas Richards has kindly contributed, with the assistance of his neighbour, this photograph of a 'tank bank' outside Bridgend Town Hall in Dunraven Place, (where the non-descript building housing the Post Office is) taken in May 1918.

Tank Banks was the name given to a WWI fundraising campaign by the British Government.

Six Mark IV male* tanks toured towns and cities of England, Scotland and Wales to promote of sale of government War Bonds and War Savings Certificates.

Tank 141, *Egbert*, had recently taken part in the Battle of Cambrai.

Still carrying her battle scars, Egbert was recovered from the battlefield and shipped to Trafalgar Square in London.

Tanks, or 'land ships' had first been deployed by the British in september 1916, but the first large-scale use was in late November 1917 at Cambrai.

Under more pleasant conditions than during combat, two staff members from the Bank of England would sell War Bonds and War Savings Certificates from a table erected inside the tank.

The tank would arrive to much pomp, circumstance, and fanfare, to be welcomed by the local great and good, dignitaries, and others.

Speeches would be made atop the tank, and whichever town or city raised the most money would be given a tank for permanent display.

No records can be found (unless GEM readers know different) as to how much was raised in Bridgend, but the eventual winner of the competition was West Hartlepool, which raised £31 9s 1d per capita (estimated to be more that £2,050 today, or some £2.3 million in total).

The demise of *Egbert* was both ignoble and insulting to the men who fought in her, and by extension, all men of the Tank Corps.

In 1937, West Hartlepool Town Council voted on whether to keep *Egbert* as a 'lesson of war' or scrap the 'relic of barbarism'.

Councillors voted 20-12 to scrap her.

AJ

British Pathé has footage of Tank 130 *Nelson* arriving in what is believed to be Batley, West Riding of Yorkshire.

Search on YouTube for 'tank bank' or visit *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uVl2z_xQnY*.

*Male and female tanks had different armament.

Writers' Circle winner is fine and dandy(lions)

THE winner of the Bridgend Writers' Circle (BWC) open short story competition is Gillian Drake with 'Dandelions'.

Second prize went to Susan Jude with 'The Scorer'.

Third prize was won by Veronica Swinburne with 'A Champagne Celebration'.

We wish to thank our judge Dave Lewis, writer, poet, photographer, publisher (Pontypridd); our sponsors, Chapter Arts Centre (Cardiff) and all the participants whose stories we have enjoyed reading.

We also thank the people and organisations who help us publicise the event every year.

The presentation evening will take place on Thursday, July 5 at Carnegie House, Bridgend at 7.30pm. Visitors are very welcome.

BWC meet on the first Thursday of the month at Carnegie House, at 7pm. New members are always welcome.

Janine Enos

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Information supplied www.welshhearts.org.

COFFEE AND WELSH CAKES AT THE TABERNACL

A COFFEE morning will take place at Tabernacl Hall (Derwen Road, Bridgend) on Thursday, June 21 from 10am to 12pm. Admission £2 at the door.

Proceeds will be donated to the chapel charities for this year, which include The Madagasgar Appeal, Research into Alzheimer's Disease and Y Bont. Welcome to all. Croeso i bawb.

TG correction

LAST week's GEM carried a Porthcawl Townswomen's Guild report that said its next meeting was on June 11.

In fact it is June 13, at 2pm in All Saints Church Hall. John Hugh Thomas will talk about Adelina Patti. All are welcome.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JUNE 14)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
07 Thur	00.44	7.7	13.15	7.6
08 Fri	01.52	7.7	14.27	7.7
09 Sat	02.59	7.9	15.35	8.1
10 Sun	04.04	8.3	16.34	8.5
11 Mon	04.58	8.8	17.25	9.0
12 Tues	05.52	9.3	18.15	9.5
13 Wed	06.41	9.8	19.03	10.1
14 Thur	07.29	10.2	19.53	10.2

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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New Mayor for Bridgend county borough takes over

The new Mayor John McCarthy (left), and the new Deputy Mayor, Cllr Stuart Baldwin (right).

THE new Mayor of Bridgend County Borough marked the start of his year in office by asking his inauguration guests to bring along donations for Bridgend Foodbank.

Cllr John McCarthy, who represents the Hendre ward, will be supported during the coming year by his wife Judy, while Cllr Stuart Baldwin will act as deputy mayor.

Bridgend Youth Council will announce their own youth mayor and deputy at a forthcoming date.

Mayor McCarthy has confirmed that he intends to spend his year supporting carers, community volunteers and some of the diverse cultures and ethnic groups that can be found within the area.

He will also support the charity work of Tenovus, the Bridgend Stroke Association and the Bridgend Parkinson's Association.

He said: "I am honoured and delighted to represent the people of Bridgend county borough.

"I want to visit as many local community groups and organisations as possible, and support united services clubs and the Royal British Legion.

"I also want to encourage more young people to get involved in local events, and once the new youth mayor and deputy mayor have been announced, I intend to liaise with them closely so that we can work in partnership on this.

"As Mayor, I believe I can help by recognising and encouraging new business, assisting in future development and offering support and advice in a positive way that will attract new ventures into the area.

"I'm keen to work alongside organisations such as the council's economic development team to help generate jobs and prosperity in the area.

"I'm particularly looking forward to welcoming people from all over the world as they become citizens of the United Kingdom, and residents who live and work in Bridgend county borough."

Walking the Big Walk in Pontycymer

COMMUNITY Furniture Aid (CFA) in Pontycymer was on the route for walkers in The Big Walk, a UK-wide project.

An idea from the Eden Project made possible by the National Lottery, The Big Walk is designed to celebrate the people who make a difference locally.

CFA co-founder Marianne Cash was delighted to be able to welcome The Big Walk. She said: "Having the walkers visit us at our HQ in The Gothic, Pontycymer, gave us all a boost.

"Every week we go out with our van and we help people to make a new home for themselves, whether it's a woman fleeing domestic abuse, a former serviceman suffering with PTSD or somebody who has been homeless.

"We do that by providing furniture but also with food, toiletries and the other knick-knacks that make a house a home.

"We've been doing that for about ten years now.

"Without us, those people wouldn't have anyone else to turn to. We are the only people who do what we do. I know that a woman running away from domestic abuse is terrified.

"But when we're finished she will have a home and her kids will have a bed to sleep in. And somebody who is frightened will be safe."

Originally from Devon, David Andrew Haydon now lives in Pontycymer and volunteers with CFA. "I was in and out of prison. I'm an ex-convict. I used to go into people's houses and rob them.

"But then I moved to Wales, and saw CFA on Facebook. It was looking for volunteers so I got in touch with them.

"I'm still here and nowadays I'm welcomed into people's houses to remove furniture which I then take to furnish someone else's house – someone who needs those things more than anything else in the world.

"Volunteering with CFA has changed my life around and I'm proud to know that my purpose is to help other people."

BW

Thanks to Denise for her 20 years of service

Denise Thomas with regional development manager Sam Ghafa.

PHARMACY technician Denise Thomas recently celebrated an impressive 20 years of providing support to the community through her work at Well Pharmacy in Pontycymer.

She was recognised for reaching this milestone with gifts and a long service certificate from Well Pharmacy's chief executive, John Nuttall, which was presented by regional development manager Sam Ghafar.

Denise was "over the moon" and was surprised by the team, who kept the celebrations secret and decorated the store while Denise was on her lunch break.

Store manager Abbie Roberts commended Denise for her commitment to her customers and the community that she has dedicated 20 years to helping!

"Denise is a fantastic pharmacy technician, she is hardworking, professional and works to a high standard; over her 20 years with the business she has built a strong rapport with the community and goes above and beyond for our customers."

CHARITY BOOST FOR BRIDGEND CHOIR

Ian Hunt of FILCO (right) visited Bridgend Male Voice Choir with good news in the form of a cheque.

CHORISTERS at a Bridgend Male Choir were delighted to learn that their organisation had been chosen to benefit from a fund set up by local supermarket chain FILCO.

The happy singers welcomed Ian Hunt from the charity branch of FILCO to their rehearsal in Oldcastle School to applaud as choir chairman Gareth Davies was presented with a cheque for £250.

Ian explained that their charity arm 'Making A Difference Locally' (MADL) has been established to support local communities which are served by the FILCO independently-owned convenience stores.

This is done through the sale of certain products in-store which then contributes to their charity fund. A number of choristers support the local FILCO stores in Bryntirion and Sarn.

Chairman Gareth Davies thanked Ian in front of over 80 smiling choristers. He said: "The choir is delighted to receive such wonderful local support.

"The money will definitely help the choir to buy new music scores as it prepares to compete at the National Eisteddfod of Wales in August – a chance to put Bridgend on the Wales music map yet again."

Gareth Reese

Army surplus shop theft: do you recognise this man?

OFFICERS from South Wales Police are appealing for assistance to identify a man in connection with a theft.

A force spokesperson said: "The theft occurred from the Pursuit Outdoor and Military Supplies store in Dunraven Place, Bridgend, on April 16.

"Anyone who recognises this man or who has any information which could assist officers investigating this crime can call 101 quoting reference 1800131751.

"Alternatively, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

PC

Seats still available for St Illtyd's parish trip to Gloucester

A NUMBER of seats are still available for the St Illtyd parish trip to Gloucester on Saturday, June 16.

Father David Lloyd of St Illtyd's said: "Churchgoer or not, come along for a grand day out in Gloucester. Tickets are good value at £13, and you're always guaranteed good company."

The coach departs St Illtyd's Newcastle, Bridgend, CF31 4EZ, at 9am and collects people from Gloucester at 5.30pm.

For more information, contact Fr David on 01656 655999 or search for @saintilltydbridgend on Facebook.

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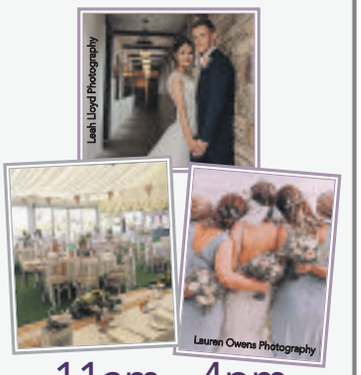

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'Rehabilitation services essential to end alcohol and drug dependency'

Welsh Conservative Leader Andrew RT Davies and Pen Y Fai councillor Altaf Hussain meet Brynawel House chief executive David Richards to learn more about the organisation's work.

PROVIDING good quality rehabilitation services is crucial to help people overcome alcohol and drug dependencies, Welsh Conservative Leader Andrew RT Davies has said.

Along with Bridgend councillor and former AM Altaf Hussain, Mr Davies recently visited Brynawel House rehabilitation centre in Llanharan to meet chief executive David Richards.

Brynawel is the only residential rehabilitation centre in Wales which has cognitive behavioural therapy and social learning at the core of its treatment programme – with a firm belief that given the right support, anyone can overcome alcohol and drug dependencies.

Praising Brynawel for the help it provides people to overcome addiction, Mr Davies said it was vital rehabilitation centres were given the support they need assist people in future.

He said: "Brynawel has a positive vision that anyone can overcome addiction with the right support – and shows why it is crucial people get it.

"I'd like to thank David for taking the time to show me around and explaining how Brynawel operates. Good quality rehabilitation services are essential to help people affected by alcohol and drug dependency and it is vital they are given the support they need."

First Minister's pollution 'scare stories' inaccurate

OUR soon-to-be-replaced First Minister Carwyn Jones has regaled us all on the cleanliness of the river Ogmore since the all-encompassing EU took charge of our environment.

On reading this comment, I wondered if there may be another reason for this turnaround in the fortunes of our rivers and beaches.

He remembers the 1980s when pollution of the river was a common sight, but could it just be that we once had industry situated in the BCBC area, numerous working coal mines and factories that might have contributed to the state of the rivers at that time?

There is now no industry anywhere near any of the major water courses in Bridgend, but, unfortunately, there are still some isolated pollution incidents caused by farming issues and the use of fertilisers which are very difficult to control.

The Welsh Water treatment plant at Ogmore by Sea dealing with water quality issues both in rivers and seas was envisaged before the intervention of the EU.

There are plans to spend millions of taxpayers' money to improve the workings of this installation which will be completed after we have left the EU, so comments that care of the environment will collapse after Brexit is nonsense.

All I can say is, Mr Jones, you will really have to improve your Remainer scare stories; you are running out of ideas.

Ian Hampton, Maesteg.

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Choir sings at wedding

ON June 2, Cor Meibion Maesteg ar Cylch was invited to sing at the wedding of Leah Louise Davies from Maesteg and Edward John Henry Partridge, the venue being the wonderful St Weonard's Church, St Weonard's, Herefordshire.

Before the service the choir sang three pieces. These were 'Rachie' the favourite 'Cwn Rhondda' and 'Llanfair' and then during the signing of the register entertained the congregation with 'Calon Lan' 'Myfanwy' and finally 'Gwahoddiad'.

The church was packed to the rafters and had wonderful acoustics which really enriched the sound of the choir.

The bride had kept the attendance of the choir a secret and her mother only found out on the Thursday before at the rehearsal, and such was the delight of the congregation they all applauded with gusto.

Cor Meibion would like to thank the happy couple for the invitation and wish them good wishes for their future together and would also like to announce that they are always available for hire at weddings and details can be given by Phil Bevan-Jones on 07799 335599.

The next performance, weather permitting, for the choir will be at Choirs At The Castle in Coity on Saturday, June 9 with many choirs performing. **CS**

Remember the three Ps when flushing!

DO your kids ever get in trouble for flushing things down the toilet?

To some people, the toilet is a magical trash can. Simply throw, flush, and your rubbish is magically whooshed away to a watery subterranean netherworld, never to be seen again.

Or so they like to think…

Although the dustbin is readily available for use, people still find it necessary to flush everyday items like wet wipes and cotton buds down the toilet.

Once something is flushed down the loo, most of us have an "out of sight, out of mind" mentality.

Whatever was flushed has cleared the toilet bowl and is on its journey to through Welsh Water's sewerage system to our wastewater treatment plant, wherever that may be.

It's not until a problem arises, (like a clogged toilet or issues in a local wastewater system) that many people even consider the fact that they may be flushing the wrong materials away.

Welsh Water dealt with 50 blockages in Bettws in the last 12 months – and 75 per cent of these are caused by wipes, sanitary items, cotton buds or other items being flushed away.

The problem is that wet wipes, baby wipes, make-up wipes, moist wipes, and cleaning wipes don't actually break up in the pipes like toilet tissue does, and can get stuck in the pipe and then cause a blockage.

As people flush without thinking, water companies are struggling to keep sewers flowing.

If a blockage isn't caught in time, the results can be horrendous.

When a sewer or drain blocks and backs up, it can cause sewer flooding in your own home or a neighbour's property.

You can help prevent a whole mess of problems by remembering to only flush the three Ps – pee, poo and paper – down the loo.

By disposing of objects like used wipes the proper way, we can dramatically reduce the number of blockages we experience.

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Nautical theme to choir's coffee morning

MEMBERS of Cor Bro Ogwr organised a coffee morning with a distinctly maritime and musical flavour recently.

A number of choristers pulled together in Trinity Church, Porthcawl to bring a seaside atmosphere to the event in spite of persistent drizzle. Bunting, striped tablecloths, flower decorations and sailor outfits helped to jolly everyone along.

A number of local shops and businesses were very generous with raffle prizes, as were members of the choir and friends.

The bric-a-brac stall was declared the best one ever in terms of variety and quality of items.

A plant stall and a jewellery stall completed the row of bargains.

There was musical entertainment too, when Jim Bartlett, local poet and singer-songwriter, stood up to sing a selection of sea songs and shanties with rousing choruses that had us all joining in, in true hearty fashion.

Even the cakes had a relevant theme – edible musical decorations on delicious cup cakes, baked by Lucy of Golding Girls and Lucy's Larder.

Many thanks to our choir helpers, who helped raise £372 towards choir funds this year of our 20th anniversary.

We are planning more special events to celebrate. Thanks also to those who gave donations and support.

Our next concert, an evening of light music, *Songs for Summer* will be held in Coleg Y Dderwen, Tondu (CF32 9EL) on Saturday July 21 at 7pm.

Tickets £10 at the door, from choir members, or on 01656 653326.

Dominique Spearey

Autism group's award

PEOPLE First Bridgend has been awarded £10k by the National Lottery Awards for a pilot project to help people with autism into work.

Many people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) living in Bridgend said they would like to work, but there are barriers and those in work also face challenges.

People First Bridgend will run a pilot project during the summer called 'Autism Works', which will provide free training for professionals on how to support people with ASD into work;

It will also give free training for employers about the benefits of employing people with ASD and how they can support them;

There will also be free "condition specific" training for people with ASD, such as travel training and social skills, as well as the more traditional training such as CV writing, how to search for jobs, complete applications and undertake interviews.

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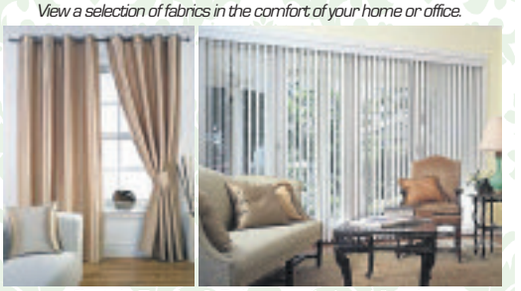

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Regular Saver	£25 - £500 per calendar month	£25 - £500 per calendar month	2.50%
90 Day Notice	£5,000	£1	1.10%
Cash ISA	£1	£1	1.10%
Cash JISA	£1	£1	2.00%
Young Saver	£1	£1	2.00%
First Adult Saver (Only available to customers aged 16 to 30 years old)	£1	£1	1.25%

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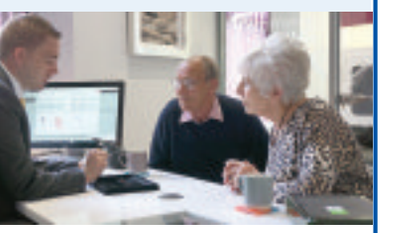

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Thousands Race for Life in Bridgend

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

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IT may have been only 11am on Sunday, June 3, when the starting horn was sounded for the Race for Life on Newbridge Fields, Bridgend, but temperatures were already soaring into the 70s.

Thousands started the race, which has become a landmark fundraising event for Cancer Research.

GEM photographer Glyn Evans was there to snap some of the runners as they warmed up and then raced off on the 5K course..

Halo Leisure were keen supporters of the event, and Ryan Stratton, Halo's Active Communities Co-ordinator said: "In an attempt to encourage more women to continue exercising after they have taken part in this years Race for Life, Halo is offering everyone who took part a free seven-day pass to Halo facilities across the county."

He continued: "Many women are switched back on to physical activity after the event and we want to help them find the exercise that they can enjoy on a long term basis. Whether they want to treadmill or tread water, we are here to offer advice and guidance on how they can take simple steps to build physical activity (gym, swim, group exercise classes, racket sports) into their busy lives."

To pick up your complimentary pass - simple pop into your local Halo centre (Bridgend, Garw, Maesteg, Pyle, Pencoed, Ogmore, Ynysawdre).

(For full details of the offer, see advert on page 20).

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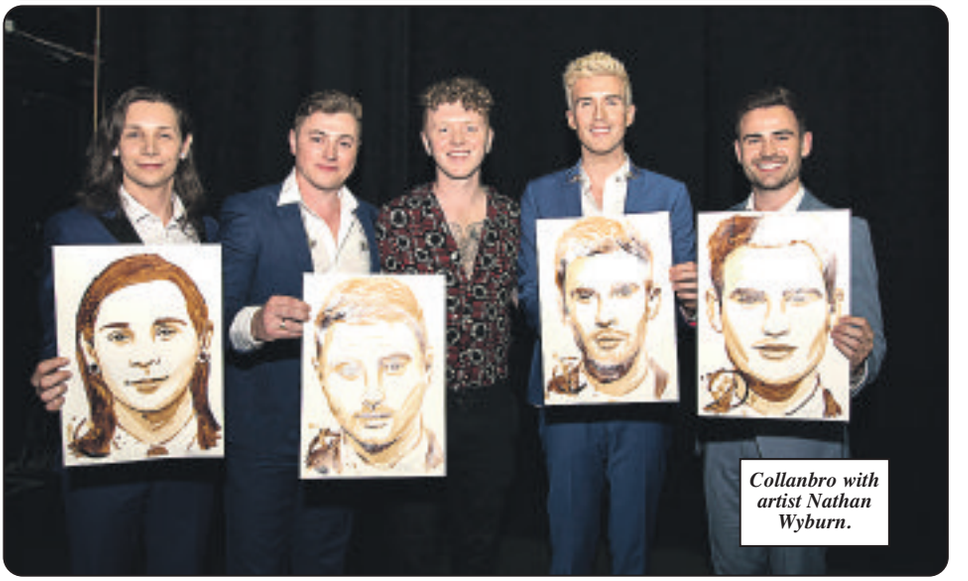
Classical heart-throbs open Maesteg Festival

PHOTOGRAPHS by SCENIC GALLERY

The Mayor with the Collabro boys.



Collanbro with artist Nathan Wyburn.

ON June 1, the Maesteg Festival started on a high note with a superb and exciting performance by *Britain's Got Talent* winners Collabro.

During the interval, Nathan Wyburn, another *Britain's Got Talent* winner, presented portraits to each member of the group that he had created from coffee. Collabro then spent time meeting and greeting their fans on stage after the event.

The evening was started off by the Mayor of Maesteg, Cllr Lynne Beadle, who gave a short introduction to the festival and thanked all the people involved in setting up another month of high quality events.

On Saturday, the Town Hall was filled to capacity by members of the three Maesteg dance groups with their families and supporters. UDC, Contagious and Funk Force provide two hours of dance and were incredible.

With children from as young as three going onstage, each group produced a vibrant dance performance. More than 250 children took part in the exciting dance routines.

Handbell ringers are 'appealing'

CATWG Handbell Ringers will perform an evening of fun on Friday, June 22 at Pencoed Miners' Welfare Hall (CF35 5PE) at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £7.50 to include a buffet and are available from Mark Steer (Brynna) 01443 230282 marksteer150@gmail.com or Wendy McDonald (Pencoed) 01656 865633 eric.mcdonald012@btinternet.com .

Tickets must be booked by Friday, June 15. Presented by Pencoed Town and District Twinning Association

VALE MEN SENTENCED IN £2.4M TAX SCAM

THREE defendants, including a man from Llantwit Major, have been jailed following an investigation by HM Revenue and Customs into a £2.4 million tax scam.

A fourth man, from Wick, received a suspended sentence for his involvement.

Southwark Crown Court heard the men had tried to cheat the system by claiming tax relief on a non-existent film and were thwarted by HMRC investigators.

The scheme saw investors claim significant financial losses on the £6 million they claimed to have spent between March 2008 and May 2009. These artificial losses enabled the investors to falsely claim around £40,000 in tax relief for every £20,000 they had invested.

Roderick Bond (59), a former police officer, of Sale, Greater Manchester, and Lee Palmer (45), a financial market trader, of Kremlin Drive, Liverpool, invested in the Formula 1 Projects LLP scheme that involved claiming false tax rebates for a film featuring F1 racing stars which was never made.

Simon Osborne (58) , an Independent Financial Adviser, of Boverton Road, Llantwit Major, was jailed for his part in the fraud.

He introduced Simon Hill (50), a former Wales international rugby union player from Wick, to the scheme.

Terence Potter (58), a disgraced former accountant, created the illegal scheme for wealthy investors with the four defendants.

HMRC investigators identified a series of suspicious tax repayment claims, which had originated from partnerships set up and managed by Monaco-based accountant Potter.

The majority of the tax refunds claimed by investors were withheld and £210,000 that had been paid out has since been recouped by HMRC.

Simon York, Director, Fraud Investigation, HMRC, said: "These men tried to cheat the system by claiming tax relief on a non-existent film and were thwarted by HMRC investigators who work tirelessly to stamp out fraudulent activity.

"For anyone thinking of embarking on a similar path and stealing money from honest taxpayers, this result shows that nobody is beyond our reach."

Potter conspired with Palmer and Bond to steal the tax cash along with financial adviser Osborne. Osborne introduced Hill to the partnership and he (Hill) also submitted fraudulent tax repayment claims to HMRC.

The members had to show they were working at least 10 hours a week in the business. The claims were supported by individual diaries running to hundreds of pages produced by Potter and sent in to HMRC by Bond, Hill and Palmer to substantiate their tax rebate claims.

More than 60 officers from HMRC's Fraud Investigation Service took part in the operation that led to the arrests in August 2014. Nine properties were searched and computers, business records and mobile phones were seized.

Hill admitted tax fraud while Bond, Palmer and Osborne were each convicted of Conspiracy to Cheat the Public Revenue after a trial at Southwark Crown Court. They were sentenced at the same court on June 4 to two years and eight months each in prison.

Hill was sentenced to 20 months in jail, suspended for two years. He also has to do 300 hours unpaid work.

Defendants in two other trials linked to this latest case have all been jailed for their part in the scam. Potter, already serving eight years for being a central figure in them all, pleaded guilty in September 2017 to his role in the Formula 1 Projects LLP conspiracy.

At a hearing on October 3, 2017, his sentence was not increased but he was disqualified from being a company director for eight years.

Bridgend Quiz League teasers

HERE are the latest teasers from the Bridgend Quiz League:

1. What game is played with six pieces of wood on each end of a chain?

2. Ian Stewart was the keyboard player and co-founder in 1963 of which legendary group?

3. Which recent TV drama was partly filmed in and around Bridgend?

SK

Answers:
1. Cricket (3 stumps, 2 bails and a bat.) A chain is 22 yards.
2. The Rolling Stones.
3. A Very English Scandal.

COFFEE MORNING

LLANTWIT Major Town Mayor, Cllr Dr Ellis, will be holding a coffee morning with an exhibition from local artist Sue McDonagh, on Saturday, June 30, 10am to 12 noon at Llantonian Hall.

Entry is £3, which includes a cup of coffee/tea/soft drink and a cake. There are raffle prizes to be won with all proceeds donated to the Mayor's chosen charities: Headlines, Age Connects and St Illtud's Church restoration.

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BRITISH MADE

Improved links for Bridgend and Vale as £1.9bn transport project gets green light

A £1.9 BILLION transport project announced this week by KeolisAmey will link the Vale and Bridgend to destinations north of Cardiff with new tri-mode trains.

The company unveiled ambitious plans for the Wales and Borders rail network and the development of the South Wales Metro working in partnership with Transport for Wales.

The full investment will be delivered over 15 years. One feature is that there will be a half-hourly service between Barry and Bridgend from 2023, rather than the existing hourly service.

The announcement came as the Welsh Government confirmed that KeolisAmey would be the next operator and development partner for the network.

KeolisAmey will begin work from October 14 and promises a new era for passengers with more services, newer trains and better stations.

The upgrade includes £194m spent on station improvements; five new stations and the modernisation of all 247 stations on the existing network. A total of £800m will be spend on replacing trains in Wales.

By December 2023, KeolisAmey aims to be running an extra 285 services every weekday across Wales. There will also be an extra 294 services across Wales on Sundays.

The company says there will also be a big investment in new technology to reduce disruption and increase performance.

As part of the South Wales Metro development, journey times will be reduced and the frequency of trains will be increased, while new Metro vehicles will bring on-street running back to Cardiff.

The link from Penarth, Barry and Bridgend to destinations north of Cardiff Central will be maintained using new tri-mode trains which can run on power from overhead electric cables, batteries and diesel engines.

Vale AM Jane Hutt said: "I have been calling for this since the Welsh Government re-opened the Vale of Glamorgan line and station at Rhoose and Llantwit Major in 2005.

"The move to a half hourly service will be welcomed across the Vale – attracting new rail passengers, including commuters, students and visitors. It will also improve access to Cardiff Airport.

"I also welcome the commitment to replacing the rolling stock, and passenger improvements like smart ticketing, cycle lockers and wi-fi at stations and on trains."

She concluded: "On the South Wales metro, there will be 100 per cent electric traction on all trains operating on valleys line services through Cardiff Queen Street and 45 per cent more seats into Cardiff in the morning peak."

Alistair Gordon, chief executive of Keolis UK, said: "We are excited about the transformation we're going to deliver here in Wales, working alongside Amey once again and in partnership with Transport for Wales.

"For too long the railways in Wales have suffered from under investment and, while the changes we need to make will take time, we are creating a platform for future economic growth and prosperity that will benefit all of Wales now and for generations to come."

An illustration of one of the new tri-mode trains.

Golf resort earns travel award

COTTRELL Park Golf Resort has announced that it has received a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence.

Founded in 2010, the achievement celebrates hospitality businesses that have earned great traveller reviews on over the past year.

Gaynor Openshaw-Smith, sales director at Cottrell Park Golf Resort, said: "We are delighted to receive a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence in 2018, now our fourth consecutive year running.

"We strive to offer our customers a memorable experience, and this award is evidence that our hard work is continually translating into positive reviews on TripAdvisor."

The Certificate of Excellence accounts for the quality and quantity of reviews submitted by travelers on TripAdvisor over a 12-month period. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, have a minimum number of reviews and must have been listed on TripAdvisor for at least 12 months.

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Stunning gift from secret supporter means Jade's operation will go ahead

FOR GEM readers who have been following the progress of Jade Owens' Wish to Walk this is a report of good news – and even better news.

Jade suffers from cerebral palsy which has left her in a wheelchair as her legs cannot support her weight or move to enable her to walk.

She has been like this for many years. Two years ago Jade had a preliminary operation on the tendons in her legs in St Louis, USA, to release the tension so that the legs could be straightened.

This was successful and with the aid of a support frame, Jade has been able to stand a bit and take some very tentative steps.

Her weekly physiotherapy has certainly helped her. However, the pain was sometimes excruciating but the inner strength of Jade made her always come through with a smile and even more determination.

Dr Park of St Louis has been carrying out operations for many years for those with cerebral palsy. He is the world leader and has a 100 per cent success rate for those with the same problems as Jade. Dr Park performs an operation called selective dorsal rhizotomy (SDR).

Jade and friends, pictured at a fundraising evening.

Jade is well known to Dr Parks and he has given the go ahead for her second operation this year. The operation is scheduled for July 25 in St Louis – this is great news. The trip details are being planned and we are almost at the stage where bags are being packed.

Jade and all her fundraisers have been working very hard to ensure the finance is in place for the operation, the travel, hotel accommodation and post operation physiotherapy back in the UK.

In recent weeks, evenings have been held to host an Ann Summers evening as well as a 'fun' evening of music and laughter. These alone have raised many hundreds of pounds. The hard work and sacrifices made by everyone have been exceptional.

Jade and her family are very grateful to everyone who helps and donates – many thanks to all who helped and The GEM for spreading the word.

Now for the fantastic news. There has been one single donation to cover all Jade's direct medical expenses for the operation in July. This amounts to something in excess of £37,000. A truly superb act of generosity.

Unfortunately for us, one of the conditions of the donation is that everything about it must be strictly confidential and, where possible, anonymous, so we are not allowed to publicly thank anyone. Anyway, 'thank you' from the bottom of our hearts.

The donation outlined above is not the end of the story. Jade, her family and all fundraisers have more money to raise for the travel, board and post-operative treatment which is estimated at well over £500 per month. So, the work continues and any donations which anyone makes will be gratefully received.

It is always possible to help Jade's cause by making a donation at www.gofundme.com/jade-wish-to-walk. Don't be put off by the ability of some to donate large amounts of money – these are few and far between. The majority of the fundraising is from that small special gift which is given with a true heart.

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Any 6 windows	£3,294	£37.73	£3,894	£44.60
Any 7 windows	£3,843	£44.02	£4,543	£52.03
Any 8 windows	£4,392	£50.30	£5,192	£59.46
Any 9 windows	£4,941	£56.59	£5,841	£66.90
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Local campaigners will be opposing new link road

Retired farmer Jeff Thomas does not support the proposed link road.

CAMPAIGNERS against the proposed link road from the M4 to the A48 are emphasising the loss of green space that will result should it go ahead.

The Ely Valley has always been popular with cyclists, ramblers, dog walkers and families enjoying the clean air, unspoiled scenery and picturesque villages but opponents fear that future generations may never be able to enjoy the Ely Valley as it is today.

One opponent is Jeff Thomas, a retired farmer at Pendoylan. He said: "My children and grandchildren have grown up in the villages around here and I worry what the future may hold for them with lorries and vans running through the valley.

"We all know diesel fumes are dangerous especially for children. They are already cutting down speed limits on the A470 to Merthyr and on the M4 around Newport because of the health risks of traffic pollution and now the politicians want to build a road to bring diesel lorries into the Ely Valley."

Sections of the new road will be raised nine metres above the countryside. Mr Thomas claimed: "Building roads that high will spread the diesel pollution and traffic noise much further than just Pendoylan, forcing everyone who uses the Ely Valley to breathe in dangerous fumes and be bombarded with noise from a road that is roof height.

"In my opinion, the Vale Council and the Welsh Assembly are planning a solution to a problem that doesn't exist."

A local campaign group, Vale Communities for Future Generations (VCFG, *vcffg.co.uk*) is unhappy with how the consultation exercises mounted so far have been managed.

Martyn Lloyd, a local resident is concerned that the only feedback he was able to give that would be counted both on paper or on the Vale Council website was to comment on which route round Pendoylan village he preferred the road to take – implying the decision had already been made to take the link road through the Ely Valley.

He said: "Whether there needs to be a link road to an airport that is in debt is the first question to be asked. Politicians are talking up their decision to buy Cardiff Airport, considered by some as a vanity purchase, and continue to pump millions into it despite its last set of accounts."

He continued: "Can't our Assembly Members find better things to spend millions on? To use scarce public money on a new road to supposedly shave five minutes off the journey time to the airport from the M4 is at best questionable."

He added: "With all the health issues, environmental issues and costs it will entail over the years, this road proposal really is a scandalous waste of money when we have health services that are collapsing from lack of funds."

Shear excitement at Goldsland Farm on June 10

GOLDSLAND Farm in Wenvoe is opening its gates to the public for LEAF Open Farm Sunday on June 10.

Hundreds of visitors are expected to visit the farm, and experience tractor and trailer rides, seeing cows being milked, and meeting the animals on a farm tour.

Visitors can meet the vet, go on wildlife tour with Wenvoe Wildlife Group, see a display of farm machinery, and watch a shearing demonstration,

There will be craft stalls, and refreshments will be on sale.

The farm is run by the Reader family, who are passionate about farm life, and farm and community issues.

Abi Reader said: "This working farm is opening its gates to showcase what goes into producing food for the nation and to allow people time to enjoy being in the countryside. It's a chance to meet the people and places behind the food you eat."

Entry to the event, which runs from 10.30am until 4pm, is free. Visitors are reminded that no dogs are allowed.

For more information, visit farmsunday.org.

FG

Jethro at the Memo

'THE Count of Cornwall' is back with his unique Cornish comedy at the Memo Arts Centre, Barry on Thursday, June 14 at 7.30pm.

Call the box office on 01446 738622 for further details and tickets, or tickets are available online at *www.memoartscentre.co.uk*.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bonvilston village cinema

THE final film before the summer break will be *The Post* on Thursday, June 14.

Starring Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep, *The Post* tells the story of the owner and editor of the Washington Post working together to expose the cover-up of government secrets spanning three decades and four US Presidents.

With showings at 3pm and 7.30pm ticket prices are £4.50 in advance and £6 on the door. Tickets are available at the Old Village Shop.

With Music in Mind

DO you enjoy singing? Like meeting other people? Ready to get out and about?

Come along to With Music In Mind, Barry: singing and social group for people age 50 and over.

They meet on Mondays from 10.30am –12.30pm at Alexander Community Centre, Alexandra Crescent, Barry.

First session free, then £5 per session. For more information call 07500 776295 or email info@withmusicinmind.co.uk.

PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

Tax Allowances – Are you making the most of them?

WE'VE all had moments of regret having rushed into something without truly understanding its implications – act in haste, repent at leisure.

Did you know that one in three people who purchased or arranged a financial product themselves later regretted the decision?

No matter where you are in life, it's always good to know you've a plan in place.

Will your legacy will be passed down in the most efficient way avoiding unnecessary Inheritance Tax?

Are you aware of the rules around giving financial gifts to your loved ones?

Are you making the most of your ISA allowance or confused about the best option for your investment?

Is your pension working as hard as it could be for you?

Are you paying too much tax?

For advice and help answering these questions, come and see Rob Jackson, our Financial Planner at NFU Mutual Bridgend and the Vale office.

Telephone 01656 337431 to speak to Pam Harris to arrange a time to suit or email bridgend_agency@nfumutual.co.uk.

NFU Mutual Financial Advisers advise on NFU Mutual products and selected products from specialist providers. We'll explain the advice services and the charges. Financial advice is provided by NFU Mutual Select Investments Ltd.

Remember that the value of investments may go down as well as up and you could get back less than invested.

NEED FACE TO FACE FINANCIAL ADVICE?

Bridgend & The Vale NFU Mutual would like to invite you to a free meet and greet session with our Financial Planner Rob Jackson.

On Thursday 14th June, Rob will be hosting free one hour sessions all day to discuss pensions, investments, family/business/life protection, protecting your wealth from the taxman, and other relevant topics here at the office.

Call us on 01656 337431, or drop by the office at Unit 1a Morien House, Bridgend, CF31 3SH (near Nathaniels Car Sales) to book your slot.

NFU Mutual Financial Advisers advise on NFU Mutual Products and selected products from specialist providers. When you get in touch we'll explain the advice services and the charges. Financial advice is provided by NFU Mutual Select Investments Ltd.

NFU Mutual Bridgend & The Vale will also be holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning, therefore there will be a range of cakes for sale throughout the day to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer. We hope to see you there.

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Out & About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, June 7 there is a change to the scheduled programme.

There will be a watercolour demonstration by Alison Fennell (*www.eastwitching.com*) . Alison is a highly accomplished artist and tutor who specialises in animal portraits, and whose prints sell worldwide.

On Thursday, June 14, we have an illustrated lecture on The Art of the Bloomsbury Group by Monmouthshire writer, art historian and lecturer Eleanor Bird (*www.blakefriedmann.co.uk/eleanor-bird/*).

Cuppa with a Copper

COME along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close between 10am and 12 noon.

Cadoc 'Cuppa with a Copper' is at Victoria Park Community Centre every Monday morning between 10am and 11am.

Penarth officers are holding a drop-in session at Penarth Police Station between 4.30pm to 5.30pm on Thursday, June 14.

Meet your local officer at the Sycamore Tree Inn, Colwinston at 11am on Tuesday, June 5.

Llantwit Major Police Surgery is on Thursday, June 7 between 10.30am and 11.30am at Llantwit Major Library, Boverton Road, Llantwit Major.

Plant sale in Llantwit

ORGANISED by the Friends of St Illtud's, there will be a grand plant sale in the West Church on Saturday, June 9 from 10am to 4pm.

An excellent selection of top quality plants available at modest prices. All plants have been grown locally.

Valeways guided walks

ON Monday, June 11 meet at Llantwit Major railway station car park (CF61 1ST) at 11am for a walk to the beach and back.

On Wednesday, June 13, the Coffee Shop Strollers of Barry meet in the Bridge Cafe car park at Cold Knap, Barry at 10.30am.

The same day the Coffee Shop Strollers of Cowbridge will meet at the Physic Garden fountain in Cowbridge at 2.30pm.

On Friday, June 15 at 10am, there will be a Castle-upon-Alun circular walk; meet at the Fox and Hounds Inn in St Bride's Major (CF32 0SA).

Armed Forces Day

AN Armed Forces Day parade and festival take place at Barry Island on Saturday, June 9 (11am until 5pm).

There will be displays and activities for all the family. It will feature organisations that reflect the past, present and future of the Armed Forces.

Barry Festival of Transport

BARRY Festival of Transport arrives on Sunday, June 10.

It starts at 10am and there will be a heritage bus display, classic car show, bus trips and a bus depot open day – all free.

The event is organised by the Cardiff Transport Preservation Group in conjunction with the Vale Council, with hundreds of classic and custom cars on display on the promenade, and classic buses providing transport from the 'park and ride' and depot on Broad Street.

Buses will also be on display in Nell's Point car park.

Refreshments and stalls will be at the depot and on the Island.

There will be a park and ride bus service from the dock offices to the depot and then onto Barry Island.

Barry Floral Society

'DOOFERS' is the title of a demonstration to be given to members of the Barry Floral Society on June 12 by Katherine Kear of Gloucester. at St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry at 2.15pm; new members are always welcome.

Cowbridge U3A

THE next Cowbridge U3A monthly meeting will be a talk entitled 'Mozart', with musical interludes, by Rev Clive Williams, at 2pm on Wednesday, June 13 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Please note the change of speaker. Visitors welcome; there is a small fee, which includes refreshments.

For more info, see *www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge*.

Tenovus bus trip

THERE are still places on the Cowbridge Friends of Tenovus fun bus trip to Bath – all proceeds to Tenovus .

The bus will leave Cowbridge (rear of Town Hall) at 9.15am on Wednesday, June 20 and return at approximately 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £20 and are available from the Tenovus shop on the High Street or by emailing *gailtalks@hotmail.com*.

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Transporting Bridgend back to the World War eras...

ON Saturday, June 16, Bridgend town centre will once again be transported back in time to the wartime era.

This free family event saw over 3,000 people attending last year, and this year, to mark the centenary of World War I, the event will be a mix of both World War I and World War II interactive stalls, demonstrations, re-enactments, exhibitions and entertainment for all ages.

This year will feature a full size replica WWI Bristol Scout Bi Plane, an array of vintage vehicles together with a multitude of realistic demonstrations from experts showing how life had to be lived in that era, among many other attractions

Live entertainment will take place throughout the day, and a George Formby-lookalike will mingle and serenade the crowds, with Winston and Monty making a special appearance for the day.

Bridgend allotmenteers will show how the Dig for Victory campaign was put into reality; various local military organisations will add their expertise to the event

A full exhibition centre is available at Carnegie House in Wyndham Street to entertain and inform the public with displays by Michael Ridley, Cheryl Hart and Natalie Murphy, featuring photographs and postcards from the era and an extensive military display complete with a fully constructed Anderson Shelter.

Wartime walks will be led by local historian John Dunkley-Williams.

The event will also mark the role played by Bridgend in World War.

Wartime Bridgend promises to be a unique experience in historical terms for the Bridgend area and will be great day out for all the family.

Further details can be found on https://www.facebook.com/wartimebridgend and #WartimeBridgend.

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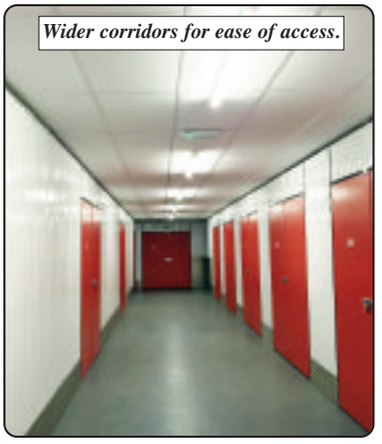
Wider corridors for ease of access.

COME IN AND TAKE A LOOK... AND BENEFIT FROM 50 PER CENT OFF!*

MASONS Self Storage is delighted to announce the completion of the second phase of its expansion project in the Vale.

In 2016, it saw the re-launch of Masons Self Storage with a complete modernisation of the facility, adding state-of-the-art features such as 24/7 access with personalised PIN codes for customers, ESCORTA lifts by Lodige for seamless journeys between the car park and storage units, an entire fit out by Kuboid and modern CCTV cameras and upgraded security alarms from Concept Fire & Security.

A spokesperson said: "This offers more space and more choice, and more for business customers.

£1.2 MILLION INVESTMENT

"The demand for this type of quality, flexible storage in the Vale has been so great that Masons Self Storage, with the backing of the Masons Group and an investment of £1.2 million, launched a second phase back in November 2017.

"This expansion project includes an additional 215 units, in a greater range of sizes than before, starting from 20sqft up to 1000sqft, increasing the lettable space to 45,000sqft.

The spokesperson said that it introduces a new concept of 'Work, Rest & Store', in the Vale, aimed at the increasing number of business customers who are looking for more flexibility when juggling the demands of their businesses.

FLEXIBLE WORKING SPACE

At Masons' newly-created business zone, customers can expect larger corridors to accommodate larger deliveries such as pallettised stock or tradesmen storing rolls of carpet and tools.

There will also be a flexible working space for business customers to take advantage of and customers will be able to connect to free high-speed wifi, use charging stations, work remotely and enjoy a range of refreshments from a tea and coffee station and vending machine.

For business customers receiving deliveries in their absence, there will be a dedicated stock holding area where they can make use of collection and deliver support.

Masons has built a new showroom which will be occupied by one of its business customers Twenty12 flooring, which offers customers a wide range of quality flooring.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

The flexible working space, part of Masons' concept of 'Work, Rest, & Store'

The new reception area at Masons.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Twenty12 Flooring opened its doors to the public for the first time on Bank Holiday Monday.

Gordon Mason, director of the Masons Group, tells us "We chose to undertake the expansion project at Masons Self Storage as a response to customer demand, especially from the growing number of businesses that require a flexible solution to storing "We're delighted that we can bring our customers the modern and upgraded facility that they deserve.

Masons Self Storage is easy to access as it is situated near the link road on the edge of Barry, only minutes from Sully, Dinas Powys, and Wenvoe, and just 5 miles from Penarth.

COMMUNITY

Masons is always looking for ways to get involved in local Vale initiatives, and it is a partner to Woody's Lodge, supports the Paul Woodland Memorial Trust fund, has sponsored Penarth's Belle Vue's Music in the Park Festival, and more recently has supported Penarth Yacht Club with its lift appeal. Masons also actively supports Barry Athletic Bowls Club.

The spokesperson said: "If you have a local scheme or project initiative that you think the Masons Group might be able to give support to, then let us know."

AWARD-WINNING STORAGE

Masons Self Storage have been voted in the Self Storage Association UK Best Independent Self Storage Facility, is a finalist for Innovation and Home, Garden and Lifestyle in the Business Growth Awards and is a member of the Self Storage Association UK (SSA UK).

For a quotation or more information, call 0800 533 5708 or visit masonsselfstorage.co.uk

ssa self storage association United Kingdom

GEM OFFER

The GEM and Masons have come together to offer readers an exciting special offer. Book a storage unit for a minimum of three months, and Masons will provide a trailer free of charge, meaning you do not need to hire a van. *Terms and conditions apply. Please contact the team at Masons Self Storage for more information.

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Council extends link road consultation

THE Vale Council has decided to extend the period of public consultation about the proposal to build a link road from the M4 to the A48.

Two potential new routes for a road connecting the A48 with junction 34 of the M4 were revealed in April.

The public consultation will now run until July17.

Arcadis Consulting (UK) Limited was commissioned by the council to develop and appraise potential options for improving the transport links from the M4 to the A48 in 2017.

The extension to the consultation follows a series of drop-in sessions in April and May organised by the council that gave residents the chance to view the plans for both proposed routes, read the draft report and provide comments on their preferred route.

Cllr Geoff Cox, cabinet member for neighbourhood services and transport said: "Following considerable interest, it has been decided to extend the current WelTag consultation to July 17, 2018.

"It is hoped that this will encourage everyone who is interested to submit their views and ideas about any aspect of the WelTag work that has been undertaken to date. This can include any new options, or views for improving transport, which the council can then consider.

"The WelTag process allows for possible transport schemes to be included or changed as the process moves forward, and, as we gain greater knowledge of the transport issues, possible problems and opportunities that face the area."

The Vale Council says that both proposed routes would improve links between the M4 and A48, reduce journey times to the airport, and help tackle local traffic congestion.

The public, and other interested groups, are being asked to comment on these proposals prior to the WelTAG process progressing to the next phase, which is likely to inform a request for further funding from Welsh Government.

To view the proposals, and give your views via the survey, visit *www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/consultation/M4-to-A48-Transport-Network-Consultation.aspx*

Health board must tackle overspend

A financial black hole of nearly £27 million is being faced by the health board managing Wales' biggest hospital – and its long term overspend is almost double that figure.

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, which manages University Hospital of Wales in the capital and other hospitals in the region, ended the 2017-18 financial year with an overspend of £26.8m.

That left the health board with an underlying long term deficit of £49m, which it says it expects to reduce to £39m by making savings in the next financial year.

The health board says it plans to improve its financial position by reducing procurement costs, reducing the amount spent on temporary staff, and "making services as efficient as possible".

Health boards in Wales and the UK are facing similar financial pressures.

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg, Betsi Cadwaladr, Cardiff and Vale and Hywel Dda health boards overspent by a combined total of £163m in the last financial year.

Cardiff and Vale health board's overspend at the start of 2017-18 was expected to be £30.9m , but this was revised to £26.9m.

A spokeswoman for the health board said: "In 2017-18 Cardiff and Vale University Health Board ended the financial year with a £26.8m planned deficit. The underlying recurrent deficit at the end of the financial year 2017-18 was £49m.

"The Cardiff and Vale University Health Board has plans in 2018-19 to improve last year's outturn from a £26.8m deficit to £19.9m deficit and improve the underlying recurrent deficit to £39m as a minimum."

LDR

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Friends of the Earth welcome new Metro plans - but say Penarth plans are flawed

FRIENDS of the Earth Barry & Vale has responded to the announcement that KeolisAmey will undertake a £1.9b project aimed at transforming transport throughout Wales.

The company is to work in partnership with Transport for Wales on the Wales and Borders rail network and the development of the South Wales Metro.

Max Wallis of Friends of the Earth Barry & Vale said: "We welcome the choice of KeolisAmey's battery-driven trams for the Cardiff region metro.

"They are much more flexible than a full electric-tram system.

"While they can switch to overhead power lines for some stages, battery trams dispense with on-street overhead lines, likewise on the rail-spur to Penarth.

"The Transport for Wales plan to route the Penarth trams on-street through Grangetown, is however unacceptable."

He explained: "Reconstruction at Grangetown Station to get the trams between Penarth Road and the overhead rail line would be substantial.

"The trams would be caught up in the traffic jams; journey times from Penarth to Cardiff would be much longer than the present 11 minutes. KeolisAmey must drop this part of the metro plan."

Unless battery-trams are allowed to run on the ordinary rail lines, through to Central and Queen Street stations, FoE doesn't want them on the Penarth line.

Mr Wallis added: "Let us keep diesel trains as on the Barry Island and Vale of Glamorgan lines, with modern rolling stock too.

"We regret that those services are not to be electrified, but let's avoid Cardiff's hotch-potch with on-street battery-trams caught in traffic jams."

Vale Council appoints a new representative to crime board

THERE are set to be two changes to the membership of the body which scrutinises the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The panel will be asked to approve the changes which will see Cllr Janice Charles replace Cllr John Thomas as the Vale Council representative and Cllr Chris Davies replace Cllr Kevin Gibbs as the Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council representative.

Each police force area has to have a police and crime panel under The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and are established and appointed by the secretary of state so the new members will not take up their roles until confirmation from the secretary of state is received.

The current Police and Crime Commissioner is Alun Michael and he is elected to ensure effective and efficient policing, with his main roles including setting the police precept on council tax.

The South Wales Police force area covers Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), Cardiff Council, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council; the City and County of Swansea, and the Vale Council.

BCBC's member is Cllr Richard Young.

LDR

Vale taxi fares set to rise after seven-year freeze

GETTING a taxi in the Vale could be able to get more expensive, if plans to increase fares are approved this week.

An average fare rise of 7.45 per cent is being proposed for all taxi journeys across the Vale.

It would mean taxi fares for up to four people on a 10-mile journey, such as from Barry to the centre of Cardiff, would cost £22, up from £20.85, on a Monday to Saturday between 6am and 11pm.

That same journey, if it was made between 11pm to 6am every day or on a Sunday or bank holiday, would cost £26.75, an 11.9 per cent increase from the previous tariff £23.90.

The proposed changes, which will also affect short-distance journeys, will be considered by the Vale Council's cabinet on Wednesday June 6.

Steve Thomas, chairman of the Vale of Glamorgan Taxi Association, which is supporting the changes, in a letter to the council said: "The average rise that we are proposing is 7 per cent. The last rise was 2011, so that means we are requesting a rise of only one per cent per year.

"I think you will agree this is not excessive, especially when you consider the rises in the cost of living, and the major rises in the running costs the drivers and operators now have to pay ie. parts, fuel, insurance etc."

All other charges, such the waiting time which is currently at £16 per hour, and for cleaning the interior of a vehicle would remain the same.

Under the current fares, the Vale is the 201st cheapest area for a two-mile taxi fare out of the 370 local authorities in England and Wales.

If the fares increase as proposed, it would mean the Vale would be 154th in the two-mile taxi fare league table.

A public consultation will be held on the plans if the cabinet approves the plans.

LDR

Vale NT Association

THE Vale of Glamorgan Association of National Trust Members and Volunteers have a few seats left on their coach trip to Tredegar House in the morning, followed by the Newport Medieval Ship in the afternoon on Wednesday, June 20. The coach will depart behind Cowbridge Town Hall at 9.30am.

Non members of the Association are welcome, but the cost of the trip does not include entry to Tredegar (free for NT members). Members £12.50, non members £13.50. Enquiries to vofgant@gmail.com.

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Ewch i unrhyw ganolfan halo (mae gennym 8 yn y sir) a dweud wrthym eich bod wedi rhedeg Ras am Fywyd eleni a byddwn yn gweithredu eich aelodaeth wythnos am ddim neu ewch i www.haloleisure.org.uk/7daypass

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Prince's Fund there for rural community

THE effects of weather, bureaucracy and concern for the future continue to put our countryside under pressure, with few avenues to turn to for support.

This can have dramatic consequences for the rural economy and the people who live and work there.

The Prince's Countryside Fund is committed to supporting community-led projects, that will reinvigorate and sustain farming networks and the countryside by providing services and amenities through its grant programme.

Open for applications until June 14, grants are available for up to £50,000. If you are involved in a community-run or farming support project, and think that your organisation may benefit – or if you know someone else who might – please get in touch straight away by visiting *www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk/grants*.

The fund has supported a diverse range of projects delivered locally and we are proud to have distributed over £9 million since 2010 to more than 250 projects led by these grassroots organisations.

We believe it is crucial that we help rural areas during these times of change to retain a thriving countryside and encourage a sustainable farming sector in the UK, and we would really encourage people to apply for our funding.

Claire Saunders, director,
The Prince's Countryside Fund
137 Shepherdess Walk,
London, N1 7RQ

Charity offer from local venue The Small Space

ONE of Wales' newest entertainment venue wants to help regional charities raise money.

The Small Space in Barry is offering a whole evening of entertainment to any charity wanting to raise funds.

Since its launch four months ago the venue has hosted a variety of events including live jazz, jewellery workshops, stand-up comedy and magic.

Directors, and fellow local Magic Circle magicians Bryan Gunton and Jasper Blakeley, want to give a little back.

Jasper explained: "We've already had a charity fund-raiser for a local rugby team and we have a Ty Hafan event coming up soon too, but we'd really like to do something every month if we can.

"With only 20 seats in the theatre, it's a very simple way for charities to raise money by selling the tickets; and with a fully licensed bar upstairs and a 90-minute world class magic show on offer it's already proved very popular."

If any charities are interested in finding out how The Small Space can help them raise money, email info@thesmallspace.co.uk.

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Did you know that you can get your hearing tested easily?

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Our ears are amazing things – helping us to hear everything from birdsong to a glorious brass band in full swing. But hearing can often be taken for granted and many of us don't realise that over time our hearing can deteriorate, so things don't sound as sharp and clear as they used to.

Hearing loss is surprisingly common, with current estimates suggesting that it affects around 1 in 6 in the UK*. Of course, the loss usually happens quite gradually and a lot of the time you don't notice it yourself. Often it is friends or family who realise you might be having issues before you yourself become aware of it.

So what are the tell-tale signs that we should look out for? The usual ones are things like having the TV turned up so loud that others find it uncomfortable and keep asking you to turn it down, or you having to ask people to repeat themselves frequently and thinking that people are mumbling a lot, particularly in noisy pubs or restaurants.

Specsavers recommend that anyone over the age of 55 should have regular hearing checks. It is really easy and completely free from Specsavers Audiologists. You can even do it at home in the first instance using the Specsavers free hearing check app or on-line hearing test. If it turns out after your in-store hearing test that you have some hearing loss Specsavers will be able to help and advise you.

There's often a misconception around the size of hearing aids but the reality is that they come in a whole range of fitting styles that can be very small and discreet. It's incredible actually, considering the level of technology and features packed into such tiny devices. Specsavers Audiologists have all the latest hearing aids including ones that are rechargable, made from titanium and essentially invisible to others. They can even be controlled through a smartphone.

To find out more or to book a free hearing test, call 0800 023 2920 or visit specsavers.co.uk/hearing.

*Action on Hearing Loss

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Specsavers Audiologists

Offer ends 31 July 2018. Both hearing aids for customer's sole use. Cannot be used with any other offers or vouchers. Cannot be exchanged for cash. Free varifocals from our £69-£125 ranges include 1.5 Standard varifocal lenses. All lenses are scratch-resistant. Extra Options available at an additional charge.

Awareness month aims to tackle scams and scammers

THE Vale Council is working with Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) to help put an end to scams, as more than 470 people across the Vale are known to have responded to scams in the last two years.

The 'Friends Against Scams' is a new campaign, launched by the National Trading Standards Scams Team, and is open to anyone who wants to protect themselves, their neighbours or their loved ones against scams.

The campaign aims to: highlight the scale of the issue by encouraging communities and the nation to talk about scams; change the perceptions of why people become scam victims; prevent people from becoming or continuing to be a scam victim by providing better support, and recruit individuals and communities to join the fight against scams to make this a scam-free nation.

Each year, scams cause between £5bn and £10bn worth of detriment to people living in the UK. In addition to the financial impact, scams can have a severe emotional and psychological impact on victims.

Scams Awareness Month is taking place throughout June.

The SRS team work with South Wales Police in the Vale. PCSOs visit victims or potential victims, to make contact and provide initial support to residents.

The SRS Safeguarding Team conduct follow-up safeguarding visits, to help prevent people falling victim to further scams. Officers can assist by identifying and explaining scam mail; installing call blockers*, signposting to other agencies and working with banks and financial institutions to put in place safeguarding measures.

The Deputy Leader and cabinet member for regulatory and legal services at the Vale Council, Cllr Hunter Jarvie, said: "Scams awareness month is a great resource to urge people to talk about scams, as well as highlighting what is being done both locally and nationally to clampdown on scams.

"Our SRS team works hard to engage with residents and key partners to tackle this issue, and help put an end to scams. I would encourage anyone to get in touch, if you feel you have been a victim of a scam or know anyone who might be."

Free training and awareness sessions are available online, and in person at local awareness sessions and can be found on the Friends Against Scams website.

If you think you have fallen victim to a scam or know someone who has, you can contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 03454 040506 or SRS on 0300 123 6696, or find out more information on the Citizens Advice website.

*Assessed on a case by case basis.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Get ready for the cinematic summer with Screen Talk's big film guide...

GIVEN how film studios market their films, the once-summer blockbuster season seems to pretty much last from January 1 to December 31.

However, many tentpole films still tend to come out to play in the summer and 2018 is no exception, so let's take a look at what films will be drawing your interest at the cinema this summer.

Given that, as you read this, *Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom* will have stomped into the box office (review next week and online at *glamorgan-gem.co.uk*), there's still plenty more on offer.

June 15 sees the eagerly-anticipated (by some people) comedy sequel *Super Troopers 2*, while if you're fancying a more horror-based escape, then Ari Aster's *Hereditary* may be for you; having chilled to the bone those who have seen it so far, it could be well worth your time if you fancy a summertime scare.

On June 18 we meet *Ocean's 8*, a loose sequel of sorts that sees Sandra Bullock's Debbie Ocean (sister of George Clooney's Danny) embark on a jewel heist with – you guessed it – seven other women, directed by *The Hunger Games*' Gary Ross; while June 29 *Sicario: Day of the Soldado* hits cinemas, the sequel to the incredible *Sicario* that picks up Josh Brolin and Benicio Del Toro's war on the drug cartels.

The First Purge (July 4), part of the hugely successful *Purge* franchise, takes us back to the first fateful night when the American government thought it was a good idea to suspend law and order, while two days later, on July 6, comes the slightly off-kilter *Terminal*, headlined by Margot Robbie in a noir-ish story of assassins, fatally ill teachers, curious waitresses and an enigmatic janitor.

If you thought the dinosaurs in *Fallen Kingdom* were big and mean, then you obviously forgot about Dwayne Johnson; the action star du jour takes on the world's highest building in *Skyscraper* (July 12), as a security expert who must free his trapped family.

With the faint aroma of *Die Hard* about it, this could be another big, dumb slice of fun from the artist formerly known as The Rock.

The following day (July 13) sees the long-awaited sequel to *The Incredibles*, the less-than-incredibly titled *Incredibles 2*, which sees Mr Incredible become a stay-at-home dad and his wife Elastigirl saves the world – and much action, no doubt, ensues.

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

There's something for everyone on July 20 – Abba fans and musical lovers will welcome *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again* into their hearts as Pierce Brosnan (hopefully) gets away with murdering another song from the second best band ever as we learn all about the youth of Meryl Streep's Donna; while, for action fans, the darkly mysterious *Hotel Artemis*, which sees Jodie Foster's Nurse run a secret emergency room for criminals, should sate your as-yet-unknown desire to see Jeff Goldblum play a character called The Wolf King.

July 26 sees yet another impossible mission for Tom Cruise's Ethan Hunt in *Mission: Impossible – Fallout*, and from the trailers this looks like the M:I team's biggest and most epic impossible mission to date, helmed by the returning Christopher McQuarrie.

August 3 (and a month later than America, thanks to that pesky World Cup) brings back Ant-Man, and this time he's with Evangeline Lilly's The Wasp in *Ant-Man and The Wasp* which, aside from being the usually dependable Marvel joyride, may shed some light on where we're heading with *Avengers 4*; while the following week, August 10, sees Jason Statham tackle a 75-foot-long shark in *The Meg* – whether Statham punches the shark is, as yet, to be confirmed.

There's triple-bill on August 17 as *Christopher Robin* sees Ewan McGregor as the older, unhappier title character, who must help Winnie The Pooh find his friends. *The Happytime Murders* sees Melissa McCarthy's cop team up with a puppet (definitely not a Muppet) to solve a series of murders in a rude and crude comedy, while Denzel Washington returns in a sequel very few demanded in *The Equaliser 2*.

August 22 sees Mila Kunis and the always-watchable Kate McKinnon get embroiled in espionage, comedy-style, in *The Spy Who Dumped Me*, while August 24 sees Spike Lee's *BlacKkKlansman* released, the true story of how an African-American police officer infiltrated the local Ku Klux Klan.

Rounding off the month, and indeed this preview, is the release of the Mark Wahlberg-starring *Mile 22* on August 24, where Wahlberg plays an American intelligence officer who has to smuggle an informant out of the country while under fire from no end of ne'er do-wells.

With this much on offer, summer will no doubt fly by, so sit back, relax, and head to your local cinema.

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HOW TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE WITH PASSMORES

PASSMORES, one of Barry's most reputable and longstanding firms of solicitors, would like to encourage all people to plan ahead to avoid problems if they later lose mental capacity.

It means making a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) on the latest version of the forms. A Lasting Power of Attorney is a legal document that enables one person to make decisions on behalf of another.

There are two types of LPA: financial and welfare. Financial LPAs enable a person to act on behalf of another if, for example, they are ill or disabled and cannot act for themselves.

A welfare LPA enables a person to act on behalf of another if that person does not have the mental capacity to act for themselves, for example, in the case of a severe stroke.

Without an LPA, it may be necessary for family members to apply to the Court of Protection for authority. This can be a distressing and lengthy process and is far more expensive than making an LPA.

Once all parties have signed the LPA, they must then be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian before they can be used.

Carli Evans of Passmores Solicitors (member of Solicitors for the Elderly and also the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners) is actively encouraging all people to plan ahead and make Lasting Powers of Attorney.

People wishing to discuss their requirements should contact Carli Evans to arrange a no-obligation appointment on 01446 721000 or by email ce@passmores.com.

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Carli Evans, a member of Solicitors for the Elderly is inviting you to attend a no obligation appointment to find out more.
For more information please call:
Carli Evans on 01446 721000
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SOLICITORS FOR THE ELDERLY
21 Tynewydd Road, Barry, CF62 8HB

Highlight Osteopath

CARERS play a vital role in the Vale, fulfilling the needs of those who have lost the ability to care for themselves.

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Whether your condition is age-related degeneration, or pain caused by the job, give us a ring or book online, and see if we can help you.

Patients consult us with a wide range of conditions relating to age, pregnancy, office and sports, with pain in the head, neck and shoulders, back, hip and sciatic pain, joint pain in the upper and lower limb.

We have plenty of free parking on the clinic site and in the immediate locality.

Rob (the Osteopath at Highlight Osteopaths) offers a permanent discount to over 65s, carers and nurses. Bring your ID and you will receive bronze membership absolutely free!

Check out the website for more information: www.highlightosteopaths.co.uk.

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After working in the caring professions for many years, Wendy was recently trained by the NHS and has been calling on clients in the Bridgend, Porthcawl, Barry and any areas in between for some time now.

Word of mouth has meant that she has built up a number of satisfied customers.

When she pays a house call, she brings her previous experience to bear, and understands that for many elderly people, the social contact is as important as keeping their toes tidy.

An hour's visit costs £15, and Wendy carries references, her CRB check and insurance information with her.

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We have a cherished team of very friendly and experienced staff who would only be too pleased to help you.

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Audiologists take the gift of hearing to Armenia

AN audiologist couple from Bridgend are flying out to Armenia on a hearing mission with Starkey Hearing Technologies.

Patrycja Szczesniak and fiancé Jakub Wiatr, from Malmo Hearing in Derwen Road, Bridgend, have been invited by Starkey to take part in the three-day mission.

Along with 13 other audiologists from across the UK and Ireland, and a six-strong team from the hearing device manufacturer's European headquarters in Cheshire,they will travel 2,400 miles to Yerevan, the capital of Armenia this week.

Jakub took part in the first Armenia mission last year and returns for the second phase when fiancée and Malmo Hearing colleague Patrycja will be joining the team.

Their visit is part of the worldwide Starkey Hearing Foundation initiative, which has provided over 1.9 million hearing devices in more than 100 countries across the globe.

The first stage of the mission took place last autumn, when Jakub and other volunteers worked closely with local teams to help fit more than 1,800 Armenians with hearing devices, as well as that all-important aftercare.

Jakub and Patrycja.

Patrycja said: "My fiancé Jakub took part in the first mission and he told me about his experience of giving the gift of hearing to those most in need – and the satisfaction it gave him – I knew it was something I would really love to do.

"I feel that this mission is going to change my life in a very positive way,as well as supporting my future career in audiology. There is nothing better in life then helping someone who really needs help."

Jakub added: "My first trip to Armenia was just incredible. I have so many great memories from the mission –so many smiles, hugs and tears from the people we helped. We transformed so many lives.

"When I found out that the Starkey Hearing Foundation was returning to Armenia to help even more people, I knew that if I was lucky enough to be invited I would definitely go.

"The fact that my fiancée and colleague Patrycja is able to join me this time makes the whole experience even more special."

According the World Health Organisation, more than 360 million people have disabling hearing loss, with the greatest number living in developing countries. Unfortunately, less than three per cent can afford hearing aids or access to care.

For further information, visit http://www.starkey.co.uk, https://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/ and http://www.bridgend-hearing.co.uk

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Do you have some spare time and want to do something enjoyable, rewarding and inspiring? The Positive Steps project needs volunteers across South Wales, to support people over the age of 50 to gain and retain their independence.

Am ragor o wybodaeth am gyfleoedd gwirfoddoli, cysylltwch gyda ni
For more information on volunteering, please get in touch

07436 799 608 / 029 2002 7855
cardiffvalehub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk
www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

BritishRedCross
Royal Voluntary Service Cymru
Camau Cadarn Positive Steps

Mae Royal Voluntary Service yn gwmni cyfyngedig drwy warant yng Nghymru a Lloegr rhif 2520413 ac yn elusen gofrestredig rhif'au 1015888 (Cymru a Lloegr) a SC038924 (Yr Alban). Swyddfa gofrestredig: Beck Court, Parc Busnes Porth Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF23 8RP.
Mae British Red Cross, a yrporffor eyd gse Siarter Frenhinol 1908, yn elusen gofrestredig yng Nghymru a Lloegr (220949) a'r Alban (SC037738).
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RENAE HAS ADVICE FOR CARERS – BUT LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY…

CALLING all Western Vale carers – advice and support is available.

The Western Vale Family Practice, Carers' Event will take place on June 12 between 9.30am and 11.30am, at Cowbridge Health Centre

Renae Crockford is part of the nursing team at Western Vale Family Practice and is also the carer and dementia champion.

She said: "Up to 50 per cent of carers miss the support they need to stay mentally and physically healthy while caring.

"It's more important than ever to shine a spotlight on the huge contribution carers make and reach out with information and support.

"We are privileged to have lots of support available in the Vale and it's part of my job to connect patients and their carers with these services.

"At Western Vale Family Practice, we pride ourselves on providing excellent support to our patients and through my role I can take time to listen and understand your particular needs, signpost you to the support that is available and help you to engage in local clubs and groups, potentially meeting others in similar situations.

Renae Crockford will be on hand to offer support and advice to carers on June 12.

"Now it is time to support our carers during national Carers' Week June 11-17 (*www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/carers*).

On June 12, between 9.30am and 11.30am, there will be an information event for carers in the waiting room of the Cowbridge Health Centre, with representatives from Greenlinks Transport, Care & Repair, Recovery Cymru, Alzheimer's Society, YMCA Young Carers' Project and the Vale's Carers' Support Officer.

Renae added: "If you ever feel that you need specific guidance or support as a carer and you are a patient at Western Vale Family Practice, please feel free to arrange an appointment with me, Renae Crockford on 01446 772383; appointments can be made at Cowbridge Health Centre, St Athan Surgery or Llantwit Major Clinic."

A hearing problem

ABOUT a third of adults older than 65 – and half of those older than 85 – have some hearing problem. It is the third most common chronic disease among older adults.

A hearing problem is usually a very gradual process, even unnoticeable. It's sometimes the people around us who comment that our hearing is not as good as we'd like to think, or you may have noticed you ask people to repeat.

Group situations or background noise make it more difficult to hear so you switch off and don't join in with friends and family. You may even tell them they sound as if they mumble. When you can't hear well, you lose your confidence to join in conversations and avoid situations.

Common signs of hearing loss are:

• Playing the radio or TV too loudly;

• Saying "what?" a lot during conversations, frequently asking people to repeat themselves, or say "speak up a bit – you must be mumbling";

• Having trouble hearing in noisy or busy places;

• Not hearing something if the person is out of your range of vision.

If this sounds like you or someone you know, book your appointment now at Apple Hearing and Healthcare at the Barry Eye Centre, 87 Holton Road, Barry June 19-20 (see our main advert).

Try our latest rechargeable Muse IQ hearing aid yourself.

We offer free no-obligation hearing tests, 30 days free trial, hearing aids with the latest technology, free lifetime aftercare and free home visits for the less mobile.

Instead of hearing loss, think about what you gain when you hear.

Let us at Apple Hearing and Healthcare help you. Appointments are limited, so call now and book your appointment on 01495 807009.

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Try MUSE iQ RECHARGEABLE yourself at our
SPECIAL HEARING EVENT
19th & 20th JUNE 2018
BARRY EYE CENTRE • 87 Holton Road • Barry • CF63 4HG
9:30am 4:30pm

» FREE no-obligation hearing consultations
» Listen & Compare the latest hearing technology to your current hearing aids
» Special Offers on the Day - get the latest technology when you trade in your old pair
During this event, we will offer the following FREE SERVICES:
Hearing Screening & Consultation • Technology Demonstrations
Trials on many Models* • Clean & Check of your current hearing aids

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Community wants to make Cowbridge dementia friendly

ABOVE amd LEFT: Supporters of Dementia Friendly Cowbridge met recently to launch the campaign. **(Photographs by Mike Wilcock).**

AT the launch of Dementia Friendly Cowbridge, many local support and friendship organisations opened their doors, offering social activities, friendship and a whole host of support information for people living with dementia, and for their carers.

Despite the wet weather, around 150 people attended to see what was on offer and gain individual advice. Proceedings were helped along by rousing performances from Y Bont Faen and Ysgol Iolo school choirs, and With Music in Mind.

Liz George said: "We were delighted to see so many people turn out to meet with experts, find local support organisations and check out social and friendship activities in Cowbridge. The atmosphere was fantastic and the feedback was great.

"People said it was a real eye opener to see just how much support was available locally. We're proud to have raised the profile of living with dementia and to be helping make Cowbridge a dementia friendly community."

David Harris, President of Cowbridge Rotary Club, presented a cheque for over £400 to the Alzheimer's Society. The money was a result of donations made by local businesses who have adopted dementia friendly welcome mats.

These mats may be seen at the entrance to many of the businesses and other organisations in Cowbridge and they are still available if any local business doesn't yet have one!

The new Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Cllr Terry Williams said: "I'd like to express my gratitude to everyone who worked so hard to make this day such a success.

"We've had representatives from the health and care sector, the legal and financial world as well as local friendship and social activity groups. I'd also like to thank those who work 'behind the scenes' like Dementia Friendly Cowbridge, Rotary and all those other often unsung heroes who turn out, week in, week out, to make things happen."

Cowbridge Library is setting up an information point for dementia. It has details of local social activities and groups and also contact details for support organisations for those living with dementia, their families and their carers. It holds a good collection of specialised books.

Dementia Awareness sessions (45 minutes duration) give a general understanding of dementia and how we can all make a difference to people living with the condition. The next session will take place at 11am on Thursday, June 28, at Holy Cross Church. Please drop in or contact Rev Heather Weddell on 07835 447 289 or at *hevtherev@googlemail.com* for more information.

Heather is also available to deliver awareness sessions for your place of work or local group.

Dementia Friendly Cowbridge is supported by Cowbridge Rotary Club, Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council, the local medical practices, the United Free Church and many others committed to making Cowbridge an inclusive, dementia friendly community. For further information, please contact Liz on 01446 774 880.

Dementia Friendly social activities

MEMORY Jar Cafe for people living with dementia:

Make new friends, engage in activities in a secure and pleasant environment with people who understand; 2pm to 4pm, first and third Tuesdays in the month at Maendy Room, Cowbridge United Free Church.

Golden Oldies Cinema: If you enjoy a film and some company in an informal setting please come along; modified sound and lighting – all welcome with ice cream interval; 2pm, fourth Tuesday of the month at Maendy Room, Cowbridge United Free Church.

With Music in Mind: Singing and social networking group for the over 50s. An hour of singing followed by refreshments and another social activity; 10.30am to 12.30pm on Fridays at The Duke of Wellington.

Cowbridge Coffee Shop Strollers: Free guided walks in the Vale at 2.30pm, Cowbridge Physic Garden, Wednesday, June 13 and Wednesday, June 27.

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE CARERS WHO ARE SO MUCH MORE...

THE 2011 Census tells us there are 15,575 people in the Vale caring for an ill, frail or disabled family member or friend.

These people are 'carers' but they would probably say: "I'm just being a husband, a wife, a mum, a dad, a son, a daughter, a friend or a good neighbour."

Carers are people who provide or intend to provide care for an adult or a disabled child, whether or not the person cared for is receiving any social care services. The care they provide is unpaid.

People become carers under many different circumstances. For example, you may be caring for someone born with a disability or who has had an accident that left them disabled; they may have an illness or disease. Their problems may be physical or mental. They might need help because they are getting older and frail.

Carers' Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities. It is backed by eight major charities. The theme for 2018 is, 'Healthy and Connected'.

If this sounds like your situation then you may be interested to hear about local events taking place in the Vale next week (full details can be seen via *www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/social_care/adult_services/Carers/Carers-Week-2018.aspx*).

In the Vale, we are marking Carers' Week by having information stands in Barry Library, as well as various GP surgeries across the Vale. Carers will have the opportunity to talk to someone about their caring situation as well as providers who support carers. A programme has been drawn up for the whole week and the intention is to cover as much as the Vale as possible.

If you are a carer, why not contact your GP surgery and find out what they are doing to mark Carers' Week.

Location of Information Stands During Carers' Week from Monday, June 11 to Friday, June 15 between 9.30am-11.30am:

Court Road Surgery, Vale Group Practice – Porthceri Site, Cowbridge GP Practices, Practice of Health, Highlight Park Medical Centre, Dinas Powys Medical Centre.

Information stands are there all day, with staff available between 2.30pm–4.30pm, at: Waterfront Medical Centre, Eryl Surgery, Llantwit Major, West Quay Medical Centre, Redlands Surgery, Penarth, Stanwell Surgery, Penarth,

An information stand is also available all day at Barry Library.

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

Vale of Glamorgan Carers' Week

Location of Information Stands During Carers' Week

Monday 11th June	Tuesday 12th June	Wednesday 13th June	Thursday 14th June	Friday 15th June
Information Stands in situ all day, with staff available between 9:30am - 11:30am				
Court Road Surgery, Barry Vale Group Practice, Porthceri Site, Barry	Cowbridge GP Practices	Practice of Health, Barry Highlight Park Medical Centre, Barry	Dinas Powys Medical Centre	
Information Stands in situ all day, with staff available between 2:30pm - 4:30pm				
Waterfront Medical Centre, Barry	Eryl Surgery, Llantwit Major	West Quay Medical Centre, Barry	Redlands Surgery, Penarth Stanwell Surgery, Penarth	
Information Stands in situ all day				
Barry Library	Barry Library	Barry Library	Barry Library	Barry Library

For further information contact **01446 704851** or visit **www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/carers**

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

Shopping at Samantha B

I HOPE you're enjoying the fabulous weather we've been having, it's so lovely seeing ladies in lovely colourful summery outfits – if you're still in need of a wardrobe refresh why not pay us a visit?

We have some gorgeous linen, by Olsen, Bianca and Signature.

Why not try a fresh white linen over-blouse with a pair of cropped trousers, always looks lovely – and linen is the only fabric that does the job in this hot weather, cool and natural.

Sometimes you still need a little jacket: Olsen have produced a lovely bomber style in a great blue that goes with everything; or a dress, Olsen have a fab cobalt blue.

Add a basket and a French stick and you'll be transported to the Med. It has a fantastic shape and is the sort of thing that never dates. I

t's worth investing in a few key pieces for your summer wardrobe, as they will come out year after year.

At Samantha b we offer a wonderful choice of stock. This season we've loved all the Marble stock, from stunning maxi dresses to coloured 7/8 jeans.

The collection is so user friendly – mix and match coordinated separates, worth thinking about if you're lucky enough to be going on holiday and need a compact wardrobe.

Fransa has given lovely printed trousers and matching tops, and all at really affordable prices.

If you're looking for something different, call in and see what we have, we are the only stockists of Bianca and Olsen in the area.

Other labels include Pomodor, Adini, Capri, Brandtex, and Signature, with outer wear by David Barry and Harvey.

Call in and see for yourself and receive 10 per cent off at 4 Wick Road, Ewenny (CF35 5BNL), open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

P.S - Half-price sale rail in store.

Samantha B

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Adini
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Bianca
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Signature

4 Wick Road, Ewenny, CF35 5BL
Tel 01656 658388
Open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

'Beware of the Seller's Market'

ACCORDING to the National Association of Estate Agents, interest from home buyers increased by 9 per cent last month, with typical estate agents registering 337 property hunters per branch in April compared to 308 in March.

In contrast, the supply of homes fell per branch from 40 to 33 on average, prompting many commentators to talk of a return to a seller's market.

So with demand on the up and supply falling once again, many experts are predicting that buyers coming to the market will face stiff competition from other house hunters. So is now a good time to buy a property?

The truth is there is never a right or wrong time to buy a property. The key is to make sure you get the right property for the right price, regardless of whether you intend to live in the property or see it as an investment – and this is where I can help.

Having helped hundreds of people purchase properties – from first time buyers to experienced investors – I am in a position to identify properties for you, negotiate a price and then guide you through the whole process from initial offer to completion.

I provide access to the best mortgage advice, conveyancing and surveys, plus much more, all under one roof.

So if you are looking to buy a property in the short to medium term, give me a call now on 07738 121 202 for an initial chat.

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MODERN LAW AWARDS 17/18 SHORTLISTED PROPERTY TEAM OF THE YEAR
TRIUMPH OVER ADVERSITY AWARD AREA WINNER
ModernLAW CONVEYANCING AWARDS 2017 SHORTLISTED PROPERTY TEAM OF THE YEAR

WITH MUSIC IN MIND

A PROJECT providing singing and social groups for older people living in the Vale is among those benefiting this month from National Lottery Good Causes money.

With Music In Mind, based in Cowbridge and Barry, is one of the latest projects receiving a grant from the Big Lottery Fund's People and Places grants programme.

The grant has been made possible thanks to National Lottery players' ticket purchases.

With Music In Mind will receive £99,954 over a three-year period to deliver their 'Expanding In The Vale' project that will open two new weekly singing and social groups for older people in Llantwit Major and St Athan, as well as ensure that the two current groups, Cowbridge and Barry, continue.

Informal group singing has been shown to reduce stress, improve memory and mood, and reduce the risk of loneliness in older people.

Welcoming the grant, Sarah Miles, managing director at With Music In Mind, said: "With Music In Mind is absolutely delighted to receive this grant. The funding will enable the organisation to expand to two new locations in the Vale, meaning that many more older people will benefit from the singing and social groups in the community."

If you would like more information about With Music In Mind or would like to be informed when the new groups will be starting you can get in touch via email: *info@withmusicinmind.co.uk* or phone: 07500 776295 or visit their website *www.withmusicinmind.co.uk*, Facebook or Twitter pages.

Enjoy singing?
Like meeting other people?
Ready to get out & about?

Come along to With Music in Mind, Barry.
Singing and social group for people age 50 and over. Alexander Community Centre, Alexandra Crescent, Barry.
FIRST SESSION FREE then
NEW LOWER PRICE: £5 per session.
For more information call or email:
07500 776295
info@withmusicinmind.co.uk

New member joins the team at Newbold

NEWBOLD Solicitors are delighted to welcome a new housing solicitor to our very busy housing property litigation team.

Kirsty (right) qualified as a solicitor in 2015. Having trained at DAC Beachcroft working herself up to a team leader, she is now a valuable member of our litigation team.

Kirsty wishes to continue with her advocacy training to become qualified in higher rights of audience, so she will offer a first-class court service to all our clients.

Catherine Hartland Watkins says: "We all feel like Kirsty has been with the firm for years. She is such a nice person who really cares about our clients and getting them results.

"Kirsty is fun, down to earth, but also a very talented litigator. In her interview she said how she wants to help people, to make a difference to their lives, and in the weeks she has been with us, I can confidently say that Kirsty has achieved this already."

Kirsty joins a team of 14 in Newbold Solicitors' property litigation team in their Barry office.

Kirsty and the team provide advice and assistance for only £60. If you have a question and you need our support, then telephone Kirsty on 01446 700693 or email *kirsty.john@newboldsolicitors.com*.

You do not have to pay large amounts of costs to obtain the best advice from national-award winners.

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

Liscombe Aggregates open builder's merchants

HERE at D Liscombe Aggregates we are pleased to announce we have opened a builder's merchants on the Vale Business Park at Llandow.

D Liscombe Aggregates is a local family run business with over 80 years' experience in the building industry, taking great pride in only supplying quality aggregate and materials to construction and landscaping businesses, as well as to members of the public.

You will find we provide a friendly, efficient and reliable service to the Vale of Glamorgan and surrounding areas.

Products can be collected or delivered and we are confident that you will find our product is not just top quality, but also at great low prices for our customers.

Customer business credit accounts are available with tailored terms suited for your trade/project – please enquire for further details.

From the professional builder and landscaper to the home improver, we offer building sand, sharp sand, a range of stone, scalpings and all-in ballast in bulk quantities or in handy 20kg bags; together with general purpose bags of Portland cement and post mix concrete.

Our range of decorative aggregates includes Blue/Grey Slate, Cotswold Shingle and Golden Flint at competitive prices, providing a cost-effective way to transform garden and outdoor areas quickly.

Other materials are available on request – we can source and deliver much more.

We are located on the Vale Business Park. As you enter the estate take the first turning right after the car showroom, and we are situated at the end on the left.

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NOW OPEN

Quality AGGREGATES and BUILDING MATERIALS including building sand, stone & bags of cement. DECORATIVE STONES including Cotswold Golden Flint and Blue Slate.

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Armed Forces Day in Barry

A MARCHING parade will mark the start of this year's Armed Forces Day in Barry, to support the Armed Forces community, past, present, and future.

On Saturday, June 9, people from all over the county are invited to the fun day event in Barry Island supported by the Vale Council, which includes the opportunity to meet serving personnel and veterans.

The parade will start at 11am, and members of RAF St Athan Band and City of Newport Pipes and Drums, Royal British Legion Band Llanelli with MOD St Athan, HMS Cambria, 203 Field Hospital Volunteers, 614 Squadron, Cadet Associations, Veterans, Royal British Legion Riders branch, Merchant Navy and the Royal Air Forces Association will all march on the island.

Military displays and vehicles including Royal Marine unarmed combat teams, TS Cadet gun running, Military Preparation Training College, military climbing wall and the Royal Navy Sea King helicopter will feature.

Barry's Male Voice Choir and Tenovus Ladies' Choir will also perform on the day.

Stalls will be hosted by military charities and community groups who will provide support services to the armed forces community. There will also be a food and drink area with pop-up restaurants.

Leader of the Vale Council, Cllr John Thomas, said: "We are very proud to host Armed Forces Day Parade and Festival 2018, as it is important that we remember and support the Armed Forces community, past, present, and future."

NRW gives Hinkley mud dredging plan the go-ahead

NATURAL Resources Wales (NRW) has approved the monitoring plan for the disposal of dredged material from the Hinkley Point C power station development site in the Bristol Channel into Welsh waters.

NRW said that this was the final condition within the marine licence that the licence holder had to meet before approval was given by NRW to dispose of the dredged sediment.

The plan details how surveys of the disposal site off the coast of South Wales, known as Cardiff Grounds, will be undertaken to monitor and ensure the material disperses.

An NRW spokesperson said that samples from the proposed dredge site have previously been analysed by independent experts, against international guidelines, and found that chemical and radiological results were within acceptable limits.

This led to NRW announcing back in March this year it was satisfied the dredged material will not harm people, the environment, or the wildlife living near the disposal site.

John Wheadon, Permitting Services Manager for NRW, said: "We make sure activities like these do not harm marine environments, which are home to valuable wildlife and habitats and very important to our well-being and economy.

"We know this is a matter of great concern for many people, but want to reassure them that every element of the application was considered thoroughly.

"As a condition of the licence, the licence holder was required to carry out additional sampling and monitoring of the disposal site. They've done this, and we've now given the company our final approval to dispose of the sediment into Cardiff Grounds.

"We're confident the proposed activity will not harm people or the environment and the material is suitable for disposal."

The work will be carried out by NNB GenCo, who were given a marine licence by NRW for the disposal of dredged material in 2014.

Further information on the marine licence and the sample results can be viewed on NRW's website www.naturalresources.wales/CardiffGroundsSedimentDisposal

Veteran's book signing for RAF Benevolent Fund

RETIRED RAF pilot, Barry Island author and public speaker, Ron Powell, will be selling signed copies of his books at the Armed Forces Day on Barry Island this Saturday, with the profits going to the RAF Benevolent Fund.

Ron said: "I think the Armed Forces days are a great way for local people to show their appreciation for service personnel past and present, and especially for those who gave their lives, or who bear the physical and mental scars of their time in uniform.

"As for me, I had a marvellous 32 years in the RAF, starting in 1973 as an engineering apprentice – known as a Trenchard Brat – and retiring in 2005 as a group captain pilot running the first stage of flying training for the Army, Navy and RAF.

"In between, there were many high spots, including working on Vulcan Nuclear bombers, flying C-130 Hercules transports during and after the Falklands War and teaching hundreds of young men and women to fly, including many from the University of Wales.

"But the true highlight was four months in southern Italy commanding a Harrier detachment during the Balkans crisis."

Ron explained: "On Saturday, I'll have some mementoes of my career alongside my books, and I also intend to march among the RAF Association contingent during the parade – if they'll have me, and if I can remember how to do it. As well as the selfish aim of gaining more exposure for my books, I also hope my stall will make a bit of money for the RAF Benevolent Fund!

"My first novel, *Wings Over Summer*, is the story of Jack Williams, a sergeant pilot from Barry trying to survive over two weeks at the height of the Battle of Britain.

"It's dedicated to a young Spitfire pilot from my home town of Ludlow, who was shot down by a Messerschmitt over Kent on September 20, 1940.

"My second aviation novel, *Wings Over Malta*, sees Jack taking part in the ferocious air battles above the Mediterranean island of Malta in 1942, when it was the most heavily bombed place on Earth.

"I'll also be selling my first volume of memoir, *Shropshire Blue, Preparation for Flight*, which recounts my growing up in Ludlow and my first few years in the RAF.

"All three books have received fantastic reviews, many praising the flying scenes. I think that's probably because much of my 32 years in the RAF was spent as a flying instructor, teaching young men and women to turn upside down, jink and spin.

"I was also lucky enough to meet and pick the brains of several wartime Spitfire pilots, and they helped my writing immensely."

You can find out more about Ron's career, writing and public speaking on his website: http://www.ronpowell.co.uk.

Fascinat-ing prize is shared!

Here is Jenny, she won the fascinator competition at Samantha B and shared the vouchers with Judith as their names came out stuck to one another!

Sewage plant set for expansion green light

A big expansion of a Barry sewage plant is set for approval despite concerns over the smell and noise.

Cog Moors Welsh Water Treatment Works, between Barry and Dinas Powys, wants to build a new plant at its site which will involve new storage tanks and silos.

The new plant would be used to convert sewage sludge into gas, which is then used to generate electricity, with the residue becoming soil fertiliser.

Vale Council officers have advised its planning committee to allow the development when it meets on Thursday (June 7).

However, Dinas Powys Community Council has objected to the development and is calling for measures so odour levels are not increased.

Cllr Kevin Mahoney, who represents the Sully ward on the Vale Council, has also objected to the development, due to "visual intrusion in a rural environment, the industrial stack and other major buildings and over development".

In his objection, he also cited "yet more toxic emissions expelled into an area already full of industrial emission-producing stacks, chemical works etc.", and "increased activity noise levels to residents in Ashby Road and other nearby residents".

The plant would use technologies known as advanced anaerobic digestion, and would heat the sludge at 165 degrees celsius to produce gas to produce electricity.

LDR

**SEE MORE ON THIS STORY AT: GLAMORGAN-GEM.CO.UK*

Surf Lifesaving open evening

VALE SLSC are holding a free open evening on Friday, June 8, at 6.30pm at Jackson's Bay, Barry Island, for ages seven to adult.

Contact the club for information via Facebook Vale Surf Lifesaving; Twitter @ValeSLSC, or email valeslsc@hotmail.com.

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DUG FOR VICTORY?

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

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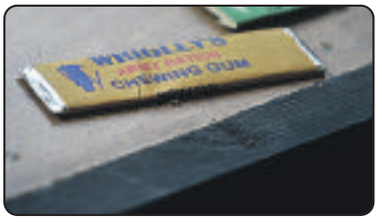
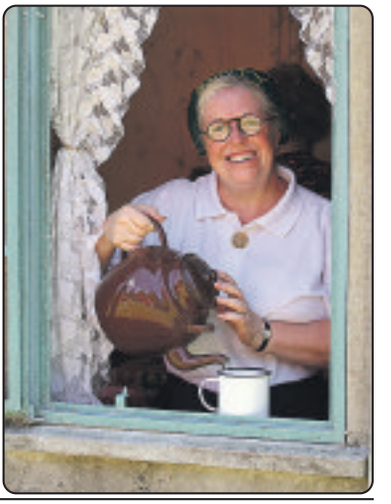
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

NO, for by then, their war was over, and the tunnels were for escape.

Hut 9 at Island Farm was opened again last weekend for one of its regular visitor weekends.

Re-enactors came from far and wide to dress in period costume, be that as a Nazi playing the ukulele (perhaps singing "Imagine Me On The Maginot Line"?) or an Ally (looking a little like Captain Mainwaring), or a woman on the home front keeping those home fires burning...





5K RACE SEES PLENTY OF COMPETITION

THE 15th edition of the Merthyr Mawr Lane 5km was held in thundery conditions, which had produced rain in the hours before the event, but it relented to leave a warm balmy still evening.

Rory McClaggan from the Merthyr Mawr Estate got the event underway and immediately Aberdare AAC vests were to the fore with the leaders going through the 1km in 3:06; by 2km (passed in 3:12) Adam Bull was moving away on the gradual climb along Ton Fruit Farm.

In the ladies race, Ffion Higginson (who leads the UK u-17 women's steeplechase rankings) had to pull up in the first mile and team mate Georgie Dando who was alongside her, sacrificed her race in stopping to support her.

The turn around the Candleston Car Park and climb up to the 3km mark (3:15), saw Bull pull away increasingly from his younger under-20 club mate Joseph Reardon; this had extended to 23 seconds by the finish line which he crossed in 15:48, compared to the 15:30 he ran in last year's event where he finished third.

Pontypridd Roadents' Simon Lewis took third in 16:43, ahead of clubmate Paul Graham.

Meanwhile Melanie Edwards of Brackla Harriers came through to take the victory in women's race in 19:45.

Les Croupiers took the four to score men's team title, ahead of Bridgend's AC and Neath Harriers, while Bridgend AC women's A team, beat their B team ahead of Brackla Harriers on a three to score basis.

Over 250 runners finished this popular spring midweek event, that also hosts a mob match between Les Croupiers RC and a combined Bridgend AC/Brackla Harriers, which was retained by the local clubs giving an 8-6 score since the inception of the mob match.

For the first time the event hosted the South Wales Regional 5k Road Championships.

Support from St Johns Ambulance and over 30 volunteers from the host club Bridgend AC and local running community, again made the event a great success in idyllic surroundings, with permissions from the Merthyr Mawr Estate, local farmer Jon Tudor and co-operation from the local residents was again greatly appreciated.

The next event in the area is the Merthyr Mawr Trail Running Festival which takes place on Saturday, June 16 from 4pm - more information at www.merthyrmawrtrailrunningfestival.com.

SB

Work continues at Hensol Castle

PLANS for new homes at a Welsh castle have been revealed as its mulrimillion pound renovation continues.

A total of 16 new homes are being planned across two sites on the grounds of Hensol Castle, which has undergone a £10 million renovation in recent years.

The Vale Resort wants to build 10 homes adjacent to the walled garden known as 'Gardener's Mews," and a further six houses in an area north west of the site known as 'Castle Villas.'

A number of dilapidated buildings will be demolished to make way for the homes.

The Castle Villas scheme would include four four-bed and two two-bed houses.

In a planning application, the resort said the development would "enable the completion of the restoration of the castle."

Phase two of the development includes a new restaurant and 30 bedrooms.

The first phase of the renovation, which cost £10m, began in 2015 and saw new conference facilities being installed in the purpose-built Courtyard Hall.

LDR

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Glamorgan Smallholders guest speakers RWAS spring festival

Helen Joy, Chris Townsend, Jess Lang, and Russell Capeling. Photograph by Glyn Evans.

MEMBERS of Glamorgan Smallholders Group have been out and about at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society's recent Spring Festival where they were asked to be some of the guest speakers in the Country Smallholding area.

Local pig and sheep breeder, Helen Joy, was part of the Q & A panel on the Sunday, when the public had the chance to quiz smallholders on all their activities.

The session offered a chance to ask the different speakers about their holdings and how they deal with the day to day challenges of running a smallholding, whether it is full or part-time.

Helen said: "It is always nice to be able to get the chance to meet and speak to other smallholders about every aspect of what they do.

"There is no such thing as a standard smallholding and often the smaller agricultural producers don't always have the family networks to draw on that the larger farming families do."

The speakers' corner, which has become a popular part of the event, was held in the Glamorgan Hall and was well attended. Other members of the group also went along to answer question and support the team.

Jess Lang, educational co-ordinator and animal lead at the Amelia Trust Farm, Barry, said: "The Spring Festival is a great event aimed at people who have an interest in agricultural at every level. It really doesn't matter how small or large your land or interest is there is something there for everyone."

She added: "Although smallholders are no strangers to adverse weather conditions, it's always nice to have an away day with the sun shining in the company of like minded people who inspire those around them to be the best they can no matter what the size of your holding."

GS

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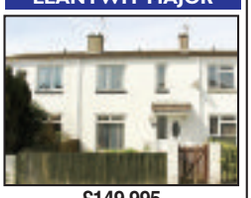

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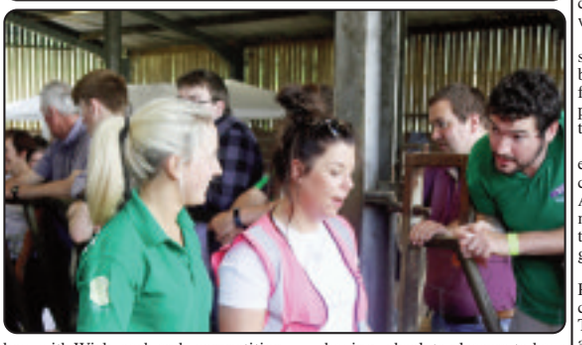
Wick Young Farmers' Club enjoy rally day success



WICK enjoyed great success at the YFC Annual County Rally Day, the pinnacle of the YFC calendar, last Saturday at Tythegston Farm.

Leading the way was our club's Scrapbook gaining 95 out of 100 points and giving Alisha Major (15) her first win of the day; the book bulged with a look back over the club's year giving an insight into Wick's fun- filled activities, great camaraderie and helped demonstrate the incredible opportunities offered within young farmers for 10-26 year olds.

Hollie Jones (13) continued the club's winning formula with a thoroughly deserved first in the Wool Handling competition, a competition filled with excitement and extreme adrenalin. Adding to this success Tom Edwards and Tom Nayler secured a first in the Boys' Bricklaying competition, building a wall with a right-angled corner to set measurements.

Alisha furthered her winning streak in the Commemorative Craft competition, having created an RAF teddy bear in full uniform to celebrate the 100 years of the RAF.

Both Hollie and Alisha now go forward to represent County at the Welsh finals at this year's Royal Welsh Show. Very well done team and best of luck for July.

Success continued for Wick, as the sun radiated down upon us: Rhianna Jones (11) and her sister Hollie accompanied by Alisha achieved second place in the Design a Kite competition, having created a most beautiful design of a Welsh lamb surrounded by flowers and trailing ribbons.

The Jones girls' artistic talents were certainly on top form. Up next was Promote Your Club achieving a further second for us. The team was comprised of Alisha, Hollie and Tanya Bhanaut as they re-enacted their favourite trips of the year – Wet n'Wild and Jump Jam, accompanied on stage by a ginormous inflatable white swan and mini trampoline set to the songs *Surfing USA* and *Cotton Eye Joe*.

Not done yet, the girls' costumes included Tanya as a Jurassic dinosaur to represent Wick as the oldest YFC Club in Wales, Alisha donning an inflatable bull costume and Hollie in a Hawaiian dress. Certainly a moment to remember as the girls spoke of the club's great support mechanism, team building exercises, fun packed activities; and how with Wick, each and every member has a voice and a say in what we do.

Next up was our dance team comprised of our chairman James Morgan, Alex Edwards, Evan Thomas, Katie Evans, Catrin Long and Victoria Powell.

They performed two dance routines, the first set in the 1920s and the second as cowboys/girls line dancing.

They had great audience participation and put on a most spectacular display constantly changing pace and rhythm earning Wick yet another second place. The Girls' Bricklaying followed at a slightly more sedate pace with Rose Lubin and Catrin Long achieving yet another second.

Rhianna continued her incredible artwork with a third in the Craft competition, having illustrated a most delightful book on 100 years since women got the vote. Well done Rhianna.

Tom Edwards and Evan achieved third in the Woodwork competition having created a very sturdy and extremely inviting see saw for a children's playground. It's the boys' last year competing in YFC, they've been incredible members over the last 15 years but depart with a most spectacular array of successes and well wishes from us all.

Not done yet. Rose, Hollie and Isobel Roberts achieved fourth in the Cooking competition to a theme of Magic and Mystery. They created a most charismatic display set in Fairy Land with a menu containing Elf Brain Cocktail, Fairy Garden Risotto, Toadstool Cheesecake and finished off with a Fairy Shot.

Further placing came for the club's Federation Display, Del's Minute Book and Tractor Handling with James Morgan, Tom Nayler, Luke Holmes and Annie Evans.

It was an exceptionally busy day, incredibly well organised by Gwyneth Thomas and the team from County yet again and what an absolute pleasure to have members of the RAF judging many of the competitions, given the 'Up Above' theme this year celebrating the 100 years of the Royal Air Force.

Many thanks also to Richard and Lynwen Anthony of Tythegston Farm for acting as hosts for the second year in a row. A most incredible day, packed with fun, excitement but best of all demonstrating the great camaraderie between the competing YFC clubs and the enormous opportunities and confidence building YFC offers its members.

The day ended with the clubs battling it out in their annual Wet n'Wild event which descended into a most spectacular display of utter mayhem and a rather wet looking bunch of Young Farmers. Enormous fun was had by all and a super end to a most incredible day.

For more information on joining Wick YFC, visit www.wickyfc.com or follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

Alisha Major

Fatality in car crash

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mrs Rowe's family continued: "She was always there for them. Barbara loved nothing better than when she had her sons Daniel and Matthew around her, and her two grandsons Mason and Thomas. They were both the apple of her eye and she loved every minute she spent with them.

"Barbara was hard working and loved her job and work colleagues. She was highly respected by all of them.

"She will be sadly missed by everyone who loved her."

A 27-year-old man arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving has been released under investigation.

Witnesses to the collision or anyone with information is asked to contact South Wales Police on 101 quoting occurrence number *192049.

Councillors approve sex shop licence

A SEX shop in Bridgend county has had its licence renewed.

Darker Enterprises Limited submitted the application for the renewal of the Sex Establishment Licence for The Private Shop in Bridgend Road, Aberkenfig.

The application went before Bridgend County Borough Council's licensing sub committee on June 5, as powers have not been delegated under the scheme of delegation to officers.

Councillors heard there were no objections from members of the public following the statutory requirement to advertise the application and there were no representations from any of the statutory consultees which include South Wales Police and the town council.

As part of the licence renewal process, the council's enforcement officer carried out an inspection of the shop and no breaches of the current licence were identified.

An officer said: "We have considered the application to renew the sex establishment licence for Darker Enterprises Limited.

"We have noted the period of consultation undertaken and the absence of any representations from either the statutory consultees or from members of the public.

"We have noted the conditions attached to the licence that have been in place to date and that there have been no breaches of these conditions or any enforcement action.

"Having taking into account all the facts we are happy to renew the licence on the existing terms and conditions."

The officer confirmed Darker Enterprises Ltd had paid the licence renewal fee of £546.

Sex shops establishments must renew their licences every year.

LDR

Council funding body aims to boost community spirit

COMMUNITIES across the rural Vale have had funding from the Vale Council's Creative Rural Communities (CRC) team to trial new ways of building community spirit in their area.

The St Hilary Forum has received support to help launch a new community newsletter to showcase what is going on in their community.

Caroline Neudegg, of the forum, said: "The monthly newsletter has been a great way of the community finding out what's happening and promoting events to bring people together.

"Even the delivery process has enabled residents to have conversations they wouldn't have had. A new resident in the village mentioned that she really appreciated the newsletter to show her what's going on."

Elsewhere the Saints – St Athan Parks group – have set up a new children's football team in the village. They have also received support to run a health and wellbeing festival over the summer.

Cllr Jonathan Bird, cabinet member for regeneration and planning, said: "We are delighted to see new initiatives being developed in the rural Vale to help bring people together, giving them opportunities to meet new people, play a stronger role in their community and address social isolation."

Caroline Neudegg and Liz Loch from the St Hilary Forum with their new community newsletter.

This project has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020 which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the Welsh Government and the Vale Council.

If you would like to find out more about how CRC can help you with piloting new approaches to delivering community services or enabling your group to become more sustainable, get in touch with the team by calling 01446 704226 or by emailing create@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

HOT STUFF FOR CHOIR

COWBRIDGE Male Voice Choir recently performed a concert at Our Lady and St Illtyd's Church in Llantwit Major.

On a very warm Saturday night in front of an audience suitably dressed for the warm weather the choir performed songs from their current repertoire in the build up to their annual concert, to be held on July 21 at Cowbridge Leisure Centre.

In the first set the choir sang 'Cwm Rhondda', 'The Water is Wide', 'Let It Be Me' and closing with 'O Gymru'.

Sandra and Rhiannon Williams then took centre stage with a piano duet of 'The Thunder and Lightning Polka' by Johann Strauss.

Luckily this time there was no thunderstorm, as happened recently when the ladies played the same item in a concert in Somerset.

The choir then closed the first half performing 'Yr Anthen Geltaid', 'He Ain't Heavy', 'You Raise Me Up' ending with 'Calon Lan'.

After an interval during which both choir and audience cooled down with cold drinks the choir resumed the concert after removing their jackets.

The choir then sang 'I Bob Un Sydd Ffyddlon' ('Rachie'), 'You Are So Beautiful', 'She' and ending this part with 'I Believe'.

Sandra and Rhiannon then treated the audience to another duet; this time they played Franz Schubert's *Marche militaire*.

The duets are being well received and appreciated by audiences and will become a continuing part of the choir's concerts.

The choir ended the concert singing 'Morte Christi', and a Beatles medley during which the audience enthusiastically joined in. This was followed by 'Angels 'and ending with 'The Impossible Dream'.

FTM

Bridgend Athletic hold presentation evening

First XV awards - Stuart Morris, Luke Bevan, Ben Howe, Sean Williams, John Apsee

Second XV awards - Andrew Tellem, Aaron Mordecai, Aled Pilliner, Lewis Down

Youth A team awards - Keith Hobby, Matthew Hobby, Thomas Zielinski, Owain Leyshon, Tom Davies, Lee Grabham, Kevin Gamble.

Daryl Dyke senior award - Lee Grabham, clubperson award Julie Thomas and club chairman Andrew Tellem.

Youth Rags awards – Josh Tidy, Sion Vigus, Paul Obbard, Brandon Fooks.

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC RFC senior and youth teams held a very successful joint presentation night at the Heronston Hotel on Saturday, June 2 attended by 97 persons. Club patron Gareth Davies hosted the event.

The meal was preceded by a minute's silence for club co-founder and life member Mr Clive Easterbrook and former British Lion Gareth Williams who on occasions coached the Athletic youth team and was supportive in attending club presentation evenings and fundraising dinners.

Club chairman Andrew Tellem welcomed everybody to the event thanking the evening's organisers primarily Lewis Down, Aled Pilliner, Jannean Obbard along with himself.

He also thanked the club sponsors who make it possible for the club to run 14 teams including mini and juniors, two youth teams and two senior teams.

He also paid tribute to all the unsung heroes of the club who work behind the scenes, whether players, coaches, match day helpers, committee, bar helpers or anybody willing to do their bit to ensure the club functions smoothly both on and off the field.

Youth head coach Lee Grabham then reviewed the youth teams' season.

The very successful A side, coached by Lee, Kevin Gamble and Keith Hobby right through mini and junior ranks retained their Ospreys A League title and just fell short of retaining the National League play-off title, losing to Blues region champions Pontypridd in the final.

They also reached the quarter-final of the Welsh Youth Cup. The team scored 621 points and 88 tries in 25 games.

Cameron Lewis, Jac Bassett and Matthew Hobby played in 23 games, Danny Oserigie 22, Owain Leyshon and Morgan Clemett 21 and Callum Swinford, Levi Hallett, Morgan Roberts, Tom Davies and Nathan Willis 20.

Matthew Hobby with 171 points was top points scorer, while Will Barraclough scored 100 points and Sam Palmer 55.

Barraclough was leading try scorer with 20 followed by Sam Palmer (11), Caine Woolerton and Joe Patterson (7) and Levi Hallett (6).

Caine Woolerton and Joe Grabham have been awarded Ospreys Development contracts, while along with Tom Davies, Will Barraclough, Danny O'Sullivan and Chris Crumpton they represented the Ospreys region throughout the season.

Joe Patterson played for the Blues South region and prop Morgan Clemett represented the Boys Clubs of Wales under-19 team.

The Rags, mainly a young 17-year-old first year youth team coached by Paul Obbard and Mike Groom, finished a respectable mid-table in Ospreys League C, scoring 238 points and 33 tries in 16 games played.

Josh Tidy played in all 16 games, followed by Brandon Fookes, Teo Filis and James Tidy (15), Sam Owens (14), Ellis Bull, Kalafi Molitika, Louis King and Sion Vigus (13), Jack Obbard and Tom Anthony (12).

Leading points scorer was Matthew Hobby with 34 points, which gave him a total of 205 youth team points for the season.

Leading try scorers were Danny Oserigie and Sam Owens who crossed for four tries followed on three apiece by Morgan Roberts and Sam Palmer, while Josh Tidy, Teo Filis and Kasari Mehta chipped in with two each.

Club vice-chairman and second XV hooker Lewis Down then reviewed the second XV season.

The second XV, with Liam Griffiths at the helm, competed in the inaugural Welsh Conference League giving them a passport to the National Bowl competition for first teams at Division 3 level of the National Leagues.

They won Tier 2 of the Welsh Conference defeating Rhiwbina 22-7 in a decider on the final game of the season.

The team reached the second round of the National Bowl losing in the last minute by a single point to Cefn Cribbwr first XV. In all, they played 19 games winning 11 scoring 392 points and 54 tries.

Leading appearances – Aled Pilliner (18 games), Lewis Down (17), Scott Jones (16), Josh Seldon, Luke Yardley and Joe Symons (15), Liam Griffiths (14), Ryan Pickford (13), Hywel Cosby and Liam Phillips (11), Alex Borley, Lloyd Pemberton and Aaron Mordecai (10).

Scott Jones, with 73 points, was leading points scorer ahead of Scott Govan with 49. Leading try scorers with four tries apiece were Lewis Down and youth flanker Tom Davies who scored two in each of his two games, while Josh Seldon, Joe Symons, Gareth Bartlett, Hywel Cosby and Liam Phillips crossed the whitewash on three occasions.

A major milestone in the season was player/manager Liam Griffiths passing his father Tony's second XV 216 record appearances.

For the last 40 years either or both Tony and Liam have been Athletic second team stalwarts as players, coaches and team managers.

Club chairman Andrew Tellem then reviewed the first XV's season.

The team finished third in Division 1 West Central of the National Leagues.

Having lost three of the first four league fixtures the coaches John Apsee, Stuart Morris, David Williams, Gerald Williams and team manager Paul Hearne turned things round.

The side went on a six-month, 14 game league winning streak before losing the final game of the season to promoted Maesteg Quins – the only side they did not defeat during the season.

They scored eight tries against Seven Sisters and seven in games against Kenfig Hill, Resolven and Seven Sisters and recorded six league doubles including fourth-placed Tondu and fifth-placed Bonymaen. In all 24 games played, they won 18 scoring 654 points and 87 tries.

Outside half Luke Bevan was the leading points scorer with 209 from four tries, 57 conversions and 25 penalties, followed by Sean Williams with 55 points, Stuart Floyd Ellis (52 points) and Robin Davies (51 points).

Sean Williams was leading try scorer with 11, followed by Stuart Floyd-Ellis (10), Ben Howe and Dan Howells (7), Dan James (6) and Nathan Holman (5).

Lock Jonathon Stoker played in all 24 fixtures this season, while Matt Muir and Ben Cording missed one game and Ben Cording and Tom Jenkins missed just two.

Others with 16 appearances were Ben Davies, Robin Davies, Lee Murphy, Luke Bevan, Wayne Fooks, Aled Thomas, Nathan Holman, Stuart Floyd-Ellis, Ben Howe and Dan James.

Head coach John Apsee then outlined the club's rugby plans.

Firstly, John thanked his fellow coaches, team manager and players for their outstanding commitment throughout the season.

He then thanked many members of a relatively small squad for their outstanding achievement in finishing third in Division 1 Central. He reserved special praise for backrow lynch pins, experienced players captain Ben Howe and Sean Williams, for their inspirational effect on the team.

At the other end of the spectrum he forecast in time a great future in the game for young outside half Luke Bevan.

He thanked hooker Nathan Holman for helping at tight head prop citing the occasion when he played there against Kenfig Hill in what John described as the turning point of the season with a seven-try, 39-0 away whitewash, which laid the groundwork for the winning sequence.

With a small squad, he thanked the second XV and youth players for stepping into the breach on occasions to maintain that winning run.

He expressed his desire to see the club back in the Championship but mentioned they may have to do it via the East not West Division 1 as there is an imbalance in numbers between east and west clubs and the Athletic are on the border; the club await WRU developments.

An important development is to integrate the youth team into senior training to familiarise themselves with both the senior match play moves and players, so future transitions from youth team to senior rugby will be much smoother for the players stepping up to senior level.

The award ceremony then took place, with head coach John Apsee and club chairman Andrew Tellem presenting the awards.

Captains' awards were presented to Ben Howe (first XV), Aaron Mordecai (second XV) and Joe Grabham (youth).

Youth A team awards: Boys Club of Wales cap – Morgan Clemett; coaches player of year – Matthew Hobby; players' player of year –Matthew Hobby; best forward of the year –Tom Davies and Daryl Dyke; youth memorial award – Tom Zielinski; clubman of year award – Owain Leyshon.

Youth (Rags) awards: Coaches player of year – Sion Vigus; players's player of year – Sean Vigus; best back of year – Josh Tidy, Rags clubman of year – Brandon Fooks.

Second XV awards: Best back award – Luke Yardley; players' player of the year, Nathaniel Cars Sales Shield – Aled Pilliner; player of the year, David Perry Trophy – Aaron Mordecai.

Club person of year, Peter Woods & Sons Trophy – social secretary Julie Thomas for her outstanding work at senior and mini and junior levels.

Bouquets of flowers presented for outstanding work during the year to Jannean Obbard, Julie Thomas, Alison Tellem and Yvonne Blackburn.

Club commemorative mugs for outstanding services to the club went to photographer John Canon, retiring youth team coaches Kevin Gamble and Matthew Hobby.

First XV awards: best back – Luke Bevan; player's player of year, Nathaniel Car Sales award – Sean Williams; Daryl Dyke Senior Memorial Award – the retiring, and most successful youth coach in the club's history, Lee Grabham; player of year, Jeff Jenkins Trophy – former five-times club captain No 8 Sean Williams to accompany his players' player of the year award.

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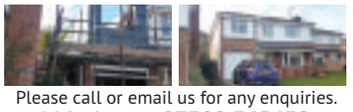

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Family Notices

HARRIS
Joyce (*née Hunt*)

Peacefully, and with her family, Joyce passed away on Thursday, 24th May, a week before her 85th birthday. Reunited with her beloved John. Most precious mum to Elizabeth, Michael, Caroline, David, Phillip and Vincent. Darling nan to Amy, Charlotte, Gareth, Rebecca, Sam, Issy, Alex, Nick and Ben. Adored great-nan of Elodie, Leo and Jasmine. Wonderful mum-in-law to Andrew, Denise, Lisa, Amanda and Helen. Auntie, great-auntie, a good and kind friend to numerous people and animals.

She loved us all and we loved her.

A service to celebrate Joyce's life will be held at St. Helen's Catholic Church, Barry on Friday, 8th June at 9.30am, followed by committal at Barry cemetery at 11am. No black ties, cheerful colours please.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu to Dogs Trust and The Donkey Sanctuary.

All enquiries to Park Funeral Directors, 7 Tynewydd Road, Barry. Tel 01446 421212.

BASSETT
Malvina Jean

Peacefully and gracefully at Holme Towers, Penarth on 22nd May, aged 90. Much loved Mum of Russ (Carole) and Kim (Dan); Granny to Megan (Phil) and Gwen (Ramy) and Great Granny to Rosie, Ben, Molly and Lily.

In peace at the Chapel of Rest, W. James, Fonmon, until her funeral at St. David's Methodist Church at 11am on Tuesday, 12th June; a reception at the church will follow. Cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, family only. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth and Hebron Hall, Dinas Powis. Donations and enquiries to W. James and Sons, Funeral Directors, The Chapel of Rest, Fonmon, Near Barry, CF62 3BJ. Tel: 01446 710096.

PIERCE
Ben

Suddenly at home on Tuesday, 22 May 2018. Loving son to David and the late Geraldine, much missed brother to Sarah, James and Ailsa. Devoted uncle to Arthur, Dorothy and Gilbert. Brother-in-law to Helen, Matt and Helen.

Service at Coychurch Crematorium Friday, 15 June at 1.15pm. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Ty Hafan, the family hospice for young lives.

NOLAN
Royston Raymond William 'Nogin'

Suddenly and unexpectedly at home in his sleep on 24th May, Royston, much loved dad to Johnathan and Shanay. Beloved brother of Alison and Angela. Brother-in-law of Geoff and Russell and an adored uncle to all his nieces and nephews.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until a celebration of his life at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Thursday, 14th June at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service or via Royston's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk where you can leave personal messages and cherished memories.

All donations will go to support Cancer Research Wales in memory of Royston.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Ben Hartery. Contact 01446 407962.

SAUNDERS
Steven Robert (Sal)

Passed away on 27th May after a short illness at a family home in Barry, Sal, aged 60 years, has spent the last 10 years living in Llantwit Major but was born and grew up in Barry. Dearly loved partner to Jenny, father to Zoie and Logan, step father to Daniel and Benn. Loving grandfather to Aneiya-Mae

Will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors until the funeral service on Wednesday, 13th June at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry at 10am. Donations, in lieu of flowers, will be greatly received in Sal's name to Marie Curie Hospice Penarth

HOCKRIDGE
Georgina Mary

Peacefully on Friday, 25th May, Georgina, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Tuesday, 12th June at 3.15pm. No flowers by request. Donations, if desired, to Wales Air Ambulance, Ty Elusen, Ffordd Angel, Llanelli Gate, Dafen, Llanelli, SA14 8LQ.

HARTREY
Val
(Dinas Powys)

Passed away peacefully on 31st May 2018. Beloved wife to Mike, devoted mother to Sian and Louise and a much-loved grandmother and great-grandmother.

A very special lady who will be sadly missed.

Funeral service to be held on Thursday, 14th June 2018, at St. Peter's Church, Dinas Powys at 12 noon, followed by interment at St. Andrew's Major Cemetery. No flowers by request. Donations would be welcomed for Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern online at www.val-hartrey.muchloved.com or via the funeral director.

All enquires to Parkman Funeral Home, 19, Camms Corner, Dinas Powys, CF64 4QY. Tel 02922 362101.

KIDDIE
John Arthur

The family wish to announce that after a long illness, John passed away peacefully at the age of 93 years at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff on 31st May 2018. Dearly loved husband of Bunty and loved father of Joy, Julia, Norman, Gareth and Christina. Bampy to grandchildren and great grandchildren. John served in the Second World War as a Wireless Operator on a Sunderland Flying Boat and was the Personnel Officer for Associated British Ports (ABP) Barry, serving 40 years with the company.

John will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare with the funeral service at 10am on Thursday, 14th June 2018 at the Chapel of Rest, Gladstone Road, Barry, followed by committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only please with donations, if desired, to the Donkey Sanctuary Devon.

WILLIAMS
David Graham (Know as Graham)

Musician and retired publican of Barry

Beloved husband of Theresa (Teri), passed away peacefully in Portugal on 27th April 2018, aged 87.

Thanksgiving service will be held at All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry on 8th June at 3pm.

PHILLIPS
Joan Averil

Peacefully on 25th May at Springbank Nursing Home, Joan, aged 95 years, passed away. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry. Funeral service and committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Tuesday, 12th June at 10am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the NSPCC.

WEST
Edith Mary Blanche

Peacefully in her sleep, on 23rd May, at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Wife of the late John West, much loved mother to Malcolm and Melvin, mother-in-law to Lorraine and Helen, grandmother to Cheryl, Ondre, Michelle, Sian, Glenn and Alison.

Will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral at St Illtyd's Church, Llantwit Major on Tuesday, 19th June at 11.45am, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 1.15pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Stroke Association c/o the funeral director.

ROWLANDS
Doreen

Peacefully on 28th May at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Much loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Doreen's funeral will be held at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge on Monday, 11th June at 11am. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, may be made at the service to the Alzheimer's Society.

COHEN
Margaret Mary

Suddenly at home on 27th May, Margaret, devoted wife of the late Jacob, loving mum to David and Darren. Beloved mother-in-law of Sue and Claire. Cherished nan of Rachel, Sarah, Matthew, Thomas and Rebecca and an adored great nan to all her great grandchildren.

She will be greatly missed by all her family and many friends.

Resting in the private chapel of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until a celebration of her life at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Thursday, 14th June at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service or via Margaret's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk where you can leave personal messages and cherished memories.

All donations will go to support to hard work of Ty Hafan Children's Hospice in memory of Margaret.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Ben Hartery. Contact 01446 407962.

In Memory

JONES
Anna Maria

12th June 2017

It's been a year since you were taken from us. We miss you every day. Always in our thoughts and memories. Until we meet again.

We love you mum.

Paul, Kirsty, Lee & family *xxx*

JONES
Anna Maria (*née Gifford*)

For a sister who has passed and departed has left us tearful and broken hearted. A dove we've sent to Heaven with a parcel on its wings.

Take care opening, it's full of beautiful things. A million kisses wrapped in a million hugs, just to say how much you'll always mean to us.

'Sadly missed, forever in our hearts'

Linda & Julie

In loving memory
ANZANI

1st April 1929 - 8th June 2009

Precious memories of my darling Mario. Always on my mind; forever in my heart, until the day we are together again my darling.
Your loving wife Eileen xxx

-

Nine years ago you left us 'Dad', but you left us precious memories that we think of often and will last forever.
Love you Dad.
Gina, Richard, Nicola, Gareth & Luca xxx

-

Nine years may have passed since you peacefully fell asleep, yet the memories you left us will always stay in our hearts. Sleep well dear Dad.
Love you always.
Mario, Amanda & Rhianne xxx

-

Remembering you is easy, dear Dad and Bampy, we do it every day. Missing everything about you is the heartache that never goes away.
Love you always
Carmen and Bethan xx

DAVIES
Godfrey Charles (Jeff)

Suddenly on 20th May at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Jeff of Bryn Pobydd, Pencoed. Dearly loved husband of Sheila, much loved father of Brian and Liz. Father-in-law to Nikki and Ed, loving grampa to Edison and a dear brother to Alan, John and Avril.

Jeff will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Funeral Friday, 15th June. Service at Salem Chapel, Pencoed at 1pm, followed by interment at Pencoed Cemetery at 2pm.

Flowers and enquiries to Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, Pencoed, Bridgend. Telephone: 01656 860545.

KNIGHT
Haydn Thomas

Suddenly on 28th May at The University Hospital of Wales, Haydn, much loved husband of Katherine 'Trinka'. Beloved dad of Claire, Gary and the late Richard and an adored gramps and great gramps to Amy, Sacha, Ellie, Zoe, Sophie and Boú.

Resting at the Private Chapel of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until a Celebration of his life at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery Chapel, Barry on Friday, 15th June at 11.15am, followed by interment.

Family flowers only. You are welcome to leave personal messages and share your memories of Haydn via his online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Ben Hartery. Contact 01446 407962.

Birthday Memory

HOPKINS
Audrey Patricia

8th June 1931

Happy Birthday Mum, miss you so much.

Always on our minds, foever in our hearts.

All our love Dawn, Caz, Gemma & Chloe *xxxx*

Acknowledgement

PATIENT
Dennis

Tua, Julie and family would like to say thank you for the lovely cards, messages of condolence and the donations to Velindre Hospital in memory of Dennis.

Thank you also to all who came to the funeral service to celebrate Dennis' life; we were overwhelmed by the number of people who attended and who obviously thought so very highly of Dennis.

We would also like to thank Reverend Jon Ormrod for leading such a beautiful tribute and uplifting funeral service.

Lost Cat

MISSING CAT
'LOTTIE'

From Phyllis Street, Barry Island.

Lottie is microchipped, but doesn't wear a collar. Please check your gardens, sheds and garages.

Contact 07789 885919 or 07792 757932.

To advertise your
Situations Vacant, Family Notices, Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc
Call Sue on 01446 774484
email:
sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Birthdays

Happy 80th Birthday to a wonderful mum and nan

Doris Irene Daniels

on 8th June.

Love, Andrea, Martyn, Rhian, Georgia, Atlanta and pei-bies xxx

THOMAS GODFREY

on 9th June

HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY

Wishing you happiness and good luck in all you do.

All our love always, Nana & Grandad, Mum & Dad and all the family xxx

Situations Vacant

AWELON

Requires:

Support Workers and Team Leader

Contact Jo or Gemma on 01446 793544 or email jo@awelonhealthcare.com

- **FULL AND PART TIME DAY STAFF REQUIRED**
- The company provides full training, uniform, pension scheme and bonus incentives.
- Experience preferred but not essential

JOB OPPORTUNITY IN DINAS POWYS

CARETAKER/HANDYMAN FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

WPP

Previous Groundsman and property maintenance experience is preferred but not essential.

Duties include, but are not limited to:

• Maintaining the soft landscape of an estate • Cutting grass • Weeding • Leaf collecting • Litter picking • Bin store cleansing • Drain/gutter clearance • Other general maintenance jobs to flats and houses

Candidate must:

• Be well organised • Be able to work on their own initiative • Have the ability to prioritise tasks according to importance • Be professional when speaking to clients • Be able to deal with difficult customers in a professional manner

Desirable:

• A background in grounds keeping would be advantageous

Hours:

• Based in Dinas Powys on site • 4 hours per day Monday - Friday

Salary:

• £9.50 per hour plus 20 days holiday exc bank holidays pro rata

Please send a CV to **info@wppmc.com**

JOB OPPORTUNITIES!!!

Full & Part Time

GJ Care & Training Ltd is recruiting new and enthusiastic care staff in the Barry, Penarth and Dinas Powys area of the Vale.

Shifts available Monday to Sunday 7.00am - 2.30pm or 4.00pm - 10.00pm.

No experience required as full training supplied. Must be a car driver.

• Competitive rates of pay • Mileage paid • Paid Travelling time • 5.6 weeks annual leave • Flexible hours • Opportunity to enrol into a pension scheme • 24/7 support network with supervisors • Free uniform provided • Career progression and training • Become fully qualified in Health and social care

To book an interview or for more information call: 01446 720124 or Email: supervisor.gjcare@btconnect.com

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Public Notices

Notice in respect of Gary Rogers, Director of Futuregrafic of 4 Clos y Deri, Porthcawl who sadly passed away on 21 October 2017 - any claims to Estate should be made in writing within 61 days of this Notice.

Please write to 4 Clos y Deri, Porthcawl, CF36 3PR.

PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern, I, **Dariosh Fazeli**, do hereby give notice that I have applied to The Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the grant of a Premises Licence at **5 Broad Street, Barry** known as **Pizza Hot 4 U.**

The Application is for **Time Change. Friday: 12.00 - 02.00 change to 12.00 - 04.00. Saturday: 12.00 - 02.00 to 12.00 - 4.00. Sunday: 12.00 - 02.00 change to 12.00 - 04.00. Bank Holiday: 12.00 - 02.00 change to 12.00 - 04.00.**

Any person(s) wishing to make representations to this application may do so in writing to the **Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU**, or email to licensing@valeof glamorgan.gov.uk not later than 28 days after the date of this notice.

Representation received after this date will not be considered.

A copy of the Application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make false statements in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Signed: **Dariosh Fazeli**

Date: **21 May 2018**

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We need fit reliable people to help distribute the

Glamorgan GEM

newspaper to local homes, once a week.

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• ACTIVE SENIOR CITIZENS
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STUDENTS
SHIFT WORKERS

Please ring:
07412 023369
01582 476666

email
info@thedistributionbusiness.co.uk

Local business joins the IN crowd

MPN Windows, Doors and Conservatories has become a member of a national trade body.

A spokesperson said: "Independent Network (IN) only accepts the country's most professional window and door companies, and each one must undergo rigorous vetting before being allowed to join, and display the IN branding.

"Companies like MPN must then agree to continuous auditing to ensure they maintain that same level of absolute professionalism.

"MPN serves all of south Wales, with three showrooms across the region."

Paul Webster, owner of MPN explained: "Independent Network imposes very strict criteria on its members; we must commit to using exceptional quality VEKA materials and every single one of our customers is given a customer satisfaction report to complete, which is sent directly back to the organisation – so they can make sure we are as good as our word when it comes to quality products and installations.

"In this way, IN can be sure that we continue to operate to the highest standards and they are happy to offer our customers a fantastic 10-year insurance-backed guarantee.

"This provides complete peace of mind for customers.

"They can rest assured that their investment is safe and protected, and they can see – at a glance – that we carry the Independent Network logo, which signifies that we're among the top VEKA fitters in the UK.

"We were award-winning members of the organisation for many years, back when it was known as Network VEKA, and then we changed PVC-U suppliers and were no longer eligible.

"Although the quality of our products was still good, we are so committed to customer satisfaction that we decided to make the move back to VEKA PVC-U so that we could rejoin the network and offer our customers all the benefits that go with it.

"Benefits include things like deposit protection, insurance-backed guarantees, finance options and a phenomenal choice of window styles and colours, to name just a few."

IN's Karen Lund said: "It's been great to welcome MPN back to the organisation.

"The company has won numerous awards for customer satisfaction over the years, and we know that the team represent everything we want to see from an IN member.

"They are committed to quality, service and professionalism, and I'm sure we'll see them win even more customer satisfaction awards in the years to come."

AS

Public consultation on Dinas Powys traffic study 'is planned'

A PUBLIC consultation in Dinas Powys, planned for September, will provide an opportunity for people to give their views on the future of transport in the village.

The public will be able to comment on the draft report for stage two of the official WelTAG study into improving transport in the corridor through Dinas.

Local councillor Vince Driscoll said: "Work on the report has been delayed a few weeks in order that consultants could expand the scope of the study at the Barry end to cover alternative bypass routes to Sully roundabout.

"The community council had requested the expansion after the Dinas Powys Bypass Steering Group had lobbied for the possible advantages of considering an alternative to the historic route going to Cardiff Road and the Biglis / MacDonald's roundabout."

The 'Stage 2 Study' considers four basic options and one will be selected by the Vale Council's Cabinet on September 17.

The options are: do the minimum in terms of traffic measures; 'multi-modal' (includes walking and cycle ways); a bypass; multi-modal with a bypass.

Cllr Driscoll added: "There are various route options for a by-pass.

"All run from the Merrie Harrier junction south between Dinas Powys and Penarth.

"One connects to the A4055 near the water treatment works at Green Lane while the others aim, on different lines, for Sully roundabout at the top of Hayes Road."

The bypass steering group has argued that the multi-modal option – which would include walking and cycle ways and improvements to buses and trains – could not work without a bypass to relieve the amount of traffic on the main A4055 through Dinas Powys.

They say that any bypass would include cycling and pedestrian facilities.

Bypass steering group chair Rod Harrod said that Ken Skates, the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport, had emailed him last week.

"He said that although funds were not available from the Local Transport Fund at this moment 'my officials will continue to engage with council officers and review our position if funding becomes available within this financial year'.

"Currently 2 per cent of commuters use buses from Dinas Powys and 10 per cent commute by train. A total of 72 per cent travel by road and a further 6 per cent are passengers in these vehicles.

"The Welsh Government announced last week that, despite millions spent in promoting sustainable transport, the number walking and cycling had not increased in the last five years.

"The new rail operator, KeolisAmey, has promised to spend £800 million on new trains in the next five years, increasing capacity by 66 per cent and spending £194 million improving all 247 stations in Wales.

"They intend adding 1,500 extra park-and-ride facilities across Wales, at a cost of £15 million. We'd like to know where they can put any at Dinas Powys stations.

"The same goes for the 'exciting' Metro scheme, which is unlikely to operate on the Vale line within 10 years.

"Perhaps we'll be lucky, like every other station, and get a covered cycle store."

The draft Stage 2 WelTAG Report will be presented to the Vale Council in July and be considered by the official review group around the end of that month.

TC

Grace and Helen's talk to Soroptimists

FOLLOWING a very enjoyable dinner at the Seashore Grill, Sully, members of Barry and District Soroptimists received a very informative talk from two specialist breast cancer nurses from the Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust: Grace Uruski and Helen McGarrigle.

Members then gave comfort cushions and drain bags handmade by members for Grace and Helen to give to patients at the hospital.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Lions' golf day benefits four local charities

Winners on the day were the South Wales Police No2 team.

The Mayor with the Porthcawl Lions team who organised the day. (All photographs by David Swidenbank.)

PORTHCAWL Lions held their annual charity golf day at The Grove Golf Club as usual last Friday.

The weather threatened thunder and lightning but the main problem at the beginning was fog, which cleared in time for the first teams to get on the course.

After a recount the winning men's team was announced as South Wales Police No 2. The second team was The Greys and in third place came the South Wales Police No 1 team. The ladies' event was won once again by the Christine Eynon Charity.

Porthcawl Lions presented cheques totalling £2,400 divided between Porthcawl Museum, Porthcawl Stroke Club, The Sandville Self Help Centre and Prostate Cymru. Porthcawl Lions Club wish to thank all the teams for supporting the event and also those organisations, business and individuals who sponsored the tees.

That was Friday; and on Sunday the Porthcawl Lions once again held their car boot sale at Porthcawl Rugby ground and, weather permitting, they will be there every Sunday from 8am to 1pm throughout the summer months. Further details from Jim at 01656 859505.

DR

***ABOVE:** Representative of Prostate Cymru Mr Andy Thomas, surgeon at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend receives a cheque for £600 from Porthcawl Lions.*

Gwyneth Poacher of the Sandville Self Help Centre receiving a cheque with the Mayor and president of the Porthcawl Lions.

Estate agent nominated for national award

ESTATE agents Peter Morgan have just won The British Property Awards for county of Bridgend.

Their team performed outstandingly throughout the extensive judging period, which focused on customer service levels and has now been shortlisted for a number of national awards which will be announced later in the year.

The British Property Awards provide agents throughout the UK with an opportunity to compare the service that they provide against the service provided by their, local, regional and national completion.

The awards are one of the most inclusive estate agency awards providers as they do not charge to enter.

The Awards team mystery shops every estate agent against a set of 25 criteria.

Robert Mclean from The British Property Awards said: "The awards have been specifically designed to be attainable to all agents, removing common barriers to entry, such as cost, to ensure that we have the most inclusive awards.

"The award has also been designed to remove any opportunity for bias or manipulation. If an agent has been attributed with one of our awards, it is simply down to the fantastic customer service levels that they have demonstrated across a prolonged period of time.

"Winning agents should be proud that their customer service levels provide a benchmark for their local, regional and national competition."

Potholes: from bard to verse

IS it me or have our roads ever been in worse condition? As ever when I encounter a problem I can't understand or deal with, I turn to verse:

Giant potholes in the road
Where water's run and flowed,
On A roads and on Bs
They're numerous as fleas
On the carcass of a crow –
You can watch the damn things grow.
So no-one now looks out for traffic,
They watch for potholes, grey but graphic.
Like dodgems on a fairground track
Cars swerve away and then swerve back.
The Council's got the cure it seems
To answer all our deepest dreams.
They'll find a man with yellow paint,
A noble man, must be a saint,
He'll paint thin lines around the drop
So accidents will end. Full stop!

Phil Carradice, St Athan.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

News and views from Nancy Davidge, Tynewydd, Llangan. (01656) 860303

News from St Canna's Llangan

GO along to St Canna's on Saturday, June 9 between 10am and 12pm and enjoy a cup of coffee with friends and neighbours.

There will be cakes, savouries, home produce, flowers and lovely raffle prizes to be won. Everyone is assured of a warm welcome.

Young At Heart Club

CLUB members enjoyed a visit to Pugh's Garden Centre at Radyr on Thursday, May 31.

This was followed by lunch at the Ty-Nant pub which is close to the garden centre.

Economy Secretary gives praise to Jehu

WELSH Government Economy Secretary Ken Skates has praised construction and property firm Jehu after it was given an award for its commitment to delivering 'responsible, sustainable business'.

Lynsey Holley-Matthews, marketing and responsible business manager from Jehu, was named IoD Wales Director of the Year for Corporate Social Responsibility in recognition of the group's commitment to doing business in a responsible and sustainable way.

Ms Holley-Matthews said: "I am delighted to have won this prestigious award on behalf of Jehu. The group has had another excellent year of growth in which we've made a real difference to the communities in which we work.

"Jehu's sense of social purpose and commitment to doing business in a responsible and sustainable way is at the heart of the organisation and is reflected not just in the success of the business, but in the sense of pride, strong values, hard work and commitment from everyone who works here."

The award comes after outgoing First Minister Carwyn Jones spoke about the importance of responsible business in delivering inclusive economic growth and prosperity for the Welsh economy.

Mr Skates said: "Congratulations to Jehu for scooping this IOD award. It is a testament to the company's hard work and commitment to working sustainably and responsibly."

AS

Local school picks up science prize

FOR the third consecutive year, St Clare's School, Porthcawl, has picked up a science prize.

The school's year-9 scientists are Welsh regional winners and have won £2,500 prize money for the school, individual prizes and a trip to London to compete against other regional winners, with the chance to win another £2,500.

The winning team is called 'Straight Outta Science'.

Its captain is Jaynee Winslade-Gregory and team mates are Susmita Dutta, Dylan Bebbington and Izzabel Woodward.

The team's idea is based on the Seebeck effect and the pupils will have to produce a 3D model prototype when they visit Imperial College, White City in London this week. The hope will be that a public vote will select their idea to become UK champions.

In 2016 'Roller Squad' led by Joseph James were Welsh regional winners while in 2017 'Chipachapachino' led by Theo Quantick won £3,000 for suggesting that all newly-built houses be designed to absorb carbon dioxide.

They not only won the Welsh regional award, they also came third across the UK.

This year, two other teams were also shortlisted for their ideas involving magnetic levitation in a vacuum and solar panels in roads.

Headteacher Helen Hier praised the pupils for their efforts and said: "STEM is so important for our children, our region and our country. We need to encourage the current generation to understand and embrace the technology that affects them every day of their lives.

"Pupils are taught by engaged and enthusiastic teachers using hands-on and minds-on activities. Making science and math courses fun and interesting not only helps pupils to learn, but might also plant the 'seed of interest' that could grow into an exciting and rewarding STEM career."

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news... **www.bridgend-today.co.uk**

Photo courtesy of Peter Zehnder.

Barry Beavers celebrate club's Big Lottery grant

BARRY Beavers are pleased to announce that they have been awarded a Big Lottery grant of £9,150 for their annual summer event, 'Party in the Park'.

The funding will secure the event for the forthcoming three years. The money will allow the club to develop the event to bring a fantastic fun day to not only Barry Beavers, but other regional disabled swimming clubs, by providing free transport for other clubs' members, and free tickets.

The event is open to the public in the Vale, with tickets available at £3 each. Call the club's secretary Pat Finch on 07517 121729 for tickets and more details.

The club celebrated the award announcement, and arranged a photo to mark the occasion. Alun Cairns MP and Jane Hutt AM, both big supporters of Barry Beavers, attended to have a photo taken with a very excited bunch of the club swimmers and volunteers.

Barry Beavers would like to thank Nigel Willis (volunteer) for submitting the grant application, and The Big Lottery for understanding and supporting the great service the club offers to disabled members of the community.

Please get in touch if you have any family or friends who would benefit from qualified instruction and support in swimming therapy for disabled people of any age.

Barry Beavers is a great fun place, with lots of activities for its members to enjoy.

NC

SULLY SPORTS BOWLS CLUB NEWS

SULLY Sports Bowls Club's men hosted neighbours the Murch, Dinas Powys, in their latest Munro Cup fixture and fought hard to take a 74-66 aggregate win.

After a wet day he weather dried up and conditions were good as was the spirit within, and between, both teams.

The two home rinks, skipped by G Brown and K Romans, had very narrow defeats with the scores close throughout.

C Coomber's rink ran away in the first 10 ends to lead 23-2, and held off a Murch attempted fightback to eventually win by 16 shots.

A Middleton's rink seemed to be cruising to a big win, as they led 10-1 after eight ends, only to be level two ends later as the visitors scored a 5 and 4, and it was nip and tuck thereafter with the scores again level with two ends left.

Middleton took two shots on the penultimate end, only for the Murch to grab two of their own on the final end for a justified draw.

Scores: R Knight, J Harries, L Adams, A Middleton 17-17; M Morgan, A Fitt, G Currie, C Coomber 29-13; P Holland, P Collier, C Spillane, G Brown 16-18; R Giddings, D Burridge, M Stafford, K Romans 12-18.

On June 2, the Sports returned to PG1 action, hosting St Josephs, and had a bad day at the office, only winning on one rink, and losing on the others heavily, to suffer a 65-88 aggregate loss.

Graham Brown's rink raced into a six shot lead in the opening three ends, but only recorded five more singles in the remaining 18 ends to go down by 15 shots.

Lee Romans' rink fared almost the same, leading after three ends, but only winning five more ends, and they also lost by 15 shots.

Roy Roberts' rink suffered in the early stages, didn't score in the opening six ends, and by then were 16 shots down. The fightback saw them outscore the Joes in the last 15 ends, but not enough to avoid overall defeat by 11 shots.

The Sports only highlight was on Rob Matthews' rink; they led from the first end, were four shots up after five ends, and the same at 10 ends, but only allowed the visitors three shots over the last 11 ends to stretch away for an 18 shot win.

Scores: A Middleton, J Kirk, C Coomber, R Matthews 27-9; R Knight, D Austin, C Spillane, G Brown 11-26; L Adams, B Whyman, K Romans, L Romans 12-27; P Holland, M Stafford, G Currie, R Roberts 15-26.

Wednesday night saw the Sports make their shortest journey of the season to play village neighbours Sully in a Munro Cup fixture, and they travel again on Saturday, June 9 for their private green fixture at Cardiff Athletic.

Cowbridge were the visitors to the Sully Sports Ladies Bowls Club on June 1 in the Evening League, and returned home with an one shot aggregate win.

Sully Sports won both rinks but as they could only field three players on one of them, the final rink score was reduced in line with the league's laws, with the result going to Cowbridge by the narrowest of margins.

The early exchanges were relatively even, but the hosts' canny bowling got them into a lead of six shots after eight ends, and frustrated the Sports attempts of a late fightback.

Scores: S Phillips, M Smith, M Dare, Carol Jenkins 22-15; R Williams, L Woodcock, Stef Parker 12-20(*home score reduced by 25 per cent as they only fielded three players).*

New members are always welcome, whether experienced players or beginners, just turn up at the club, or contact Peter Holland (men's secretary) on 01446 622490, or Mary Dare (ladies' captain) on 01446 732994. **MS**

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League 2017/18 season in review

THE much-disrupted Vale of Glamorgan Association Football League came to an end in mid-May, ending in bizarre fashion in the Premier Division.

St Athan were looking to claim the title but with FC Barry Belgrade folding on the last weekend, their record was expunged.

St Athan lost the four points they gained from their matches with them leaving the door open for Barry Athletic FC to claim the title if they could beat Penarth Town FC.

They duly did, 4-2, thus becoming Premier Division champions.

Full list of champions and runners-up in all cups and divisions:

Seniors: Barry Cup winners – St Athan FC (man of the match Bradley Young, St Athan FC), runners-up – Lantwit Major FC; Premier Division league winners and ASRS Cup runners up: Barry Athletic FC, league runners-up – St Athan FC; ASRS Cup winners – FC Barry Belgrade.

Division 1 league and Supporters Cup winners: Sully Sports FC, league runners-up – Barry Saints FC; Supporters Cup runners-up – Tynewydd FC.

Division 2 league and Dockers Cup Winners: Llantwit Major FC, league runners-up – Cadoxton Barry FC, Dockers Cup runners-up – AFC Rhoose.

Juniors: Year 11 League and Junior Cup winners: Barry Athletic FC, Junior Cup runners-up – Sully Sports Reds. Year 10 League winners and Steve Williams Cup runners up – Barry Town United FC, Steve Williams Cup winners and league runners-up – AFC Wolves. Year 9 league and Harry Gratton Cup winners: Porthkerry Panthers FC, league runners-up – Cowbridge Town Reds, Harry Gratton Cup runners-up – Park Lions FC.

Year 8 League and Billy Butlin Cup winners: Cowbridge Town Reds, league runners-up – Cowbridge Town Blacks, Billy Butlin Cup runners-up – Island Marine FC.

Year 7 League and Brian Riseborough Cup winners: Penarth Town Raiders, league runners-up – Cowbridge Town FC, Brian Riseborough Cup runners-up – Sully Sports FC.

Preparations for the 2018/19 season are underway and clubs are reminded that the AGM is Monday, June 18 at the Seaview Labour Club.

Doors open 7pm for a 7.15pm start. Also, with new rules in place, all clubs need to put in their application forms for the season and pay for all teams on the night.

No application/non-payment means no entry for the 2018/19 season. No entries of clubs and teams will be accepted after the AGM.

MD

Club's annual race ends series

Jake Richardson, winner of the slow fleet.

SULLY Sailing Club's annual 'Round Sully Island' race for the Commodore's Plate proved a fitting climax to the Early Bird Series.

Steve Marshall decided that sailing a 29er dinghy would enable him to win both the race around the island and the Series.

Being a faster boat, it enabled him to get around the island before the tide gate closed, so he won the Commodore's Cup.

Many of the slower boats were forced to retire from the race as the ebb tide increased in strength and the light breeze made it impossible to get around the island.

However, Steve had miscalculated the points for the Early Bird Series and, despite Danny Powell being ashore doing his race duty, it was Danny who emerged the winner of the Early Bird Series, with Steve second.

The second race of the day was won by Bob Lang in a Lark from Jake Richardson in a Laser Radial. This confirmed Richardson as the winner of the Slow Handicap section of the Early Bird series with third place overall.

Under-16s prepare for historic tour

THE under-16s from Llantwit Major RFC head off on their historic tour in a week's time, boosted by the support of the Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions.

Over the last three seasons the boys have been busy fundraising, and in acknowledgment of this the Lions have donated a contribution to the tour to help the boys get additional kit for their trip to Sweden.

Being the first Welsh junior rugby team to tour Sweden was a big attraction in gaining the Lions' support, who do their best to help out local sports clubs.

The rugby club and Lions have always had a close bond and on June 23 the Llantwit and Cowbridge Lions summer fair will be hosted at the recreation ground, when hopefully the tour-weary boys will be back at the rugby club with plenty of stories to tell.

Everyone involved in the tour would like to thank the Lions for their generous contribution and we hope that we can meet up with Lions societies based in either Gothenburg or Sweden!

More details of the boys' history making tour will be in next week's GEM and on the Llantwit Major RFC website.

Pictured, Lion Byron Evans with the under-16s Ben Reilly (left) and Culley Harrington (right). **MR**

Belle Vue bowlers beat Cadoxton

BELLE VUE Bowling Club played Cadoxton Bowling Club on May 30 in the Munro Cup.

It was a good morale-boosting win for Belle Vue after being on the end of some heavy defeats recently with three rinks winning and one defeat, 12-2.

Rink one won 20-11; lead was Frank Keen, No.2 was Dave Huntley, No.3 was captain Paul Paterson and skip was Ceri Jones.

Rink two won by two shots, 16-14. Lead was Dave Bradley, No.2 was Graham Duggan, No.3 was Richard Brant and the skip was Trevor Ford.

Rink three won by one shot, 16-15. Lead was Dave Smith, No.2 was Paul Booth, No.3 was John Whitfield and skip was Colin Scammell.

Rink four lost 10 shots to 14. Lead was Len Fowler, No.2 was Mike Owens, No.3 was Dave Miller and the skip was Barrie Bagwell.

The overall total was 62 shots to 54 shots.

Thanks go to Paul Paterson for the food and Paul Booth, Gerrie Field, Frank Keen and Colin Scammell for the help in the kitchen.

FK

Cheer on South Wales FA team at Jenner Park

INTERNATIONAL football made its return to Jenner Park on Monday, as the ground hosted its first of three fixtures this week in preliminary round Group A of the UEFA Regions Cup, Europe's flagship competition for all-amateur players.

Having qualified by beating a North Wales Coast FA XI in April, the South Wales FA have been tasked with representing Wales and they began their Regions Cup campaign in fine fashion, defeating visitors FK Kozara of the Region of Gothenburg.

After an Adam Jenkins penalty put the Welsh side ahead in the fifth minute, goals from Jordan Evans, Christopher Colvin-Owen (2) and substitute Christopher Quick ensured an emphatic 5-0 win over the Swedes, in front of a crowd of over 400.

The South Wales team are back at Jenner Park on Thursday (June 7), where they will entertain representatives of Macedonia in a 7pm kick-off, before rounding off their three-game series against Greeks Evia at 4pm on Sunday (10th).

Admission for the upcoming UEFA Regions Cup fixtures will be £4 at the turnstiles, with concessions priced at £1.

AC

Spend an evening with Neil Warnock

THE Events Room is delighted to announce a special 'There's only one Neil Warnock' celebration dinner at The Radisson Blu Hotel, Cardiff on Thursday, July 12.

The evening in support of Cancer Research Wales will celebrate an incredible eighth promotion for Warnock, with arguably his biggest achievement in getting Cardiff City promoted back to the Premier League, a record eclipsing the achievements of Jim Smith, Dave Bassett and the late Graham Taylor – and completing an astonishing turnaround since he took over as manager only 19 months ago, when Cardiff City were second from bottom.

You will have the opportunity to hear the views of Warnock as he prepares to lock horns with the likes of Pep Guardiola, Jürgen Klopp and Jose Mourinho in the coveted Premier League.

This is an exclusive all ticket event, and tickets are available via theeventsroom.co.uk or on 0845 108 5690 (office hours only).

MJ

Youngsters enjoy taking part in angling competition

FIFTEEN youngsters took part in the Ogmore Angling Association (OAA) junior fishing competition held at the Dipping Bridge on the River Ogmore near Ewenny on Sunday, June 3.

The competition was later followed by a BBQ and prize presentation.

A total of 19 fish were caught which included three eels.

The overall winner was May Davies who caught four fish with an overall length of 48"; second place went to Jessica Hewitt who caught three fish with a total length of 35.5" and third place went to Sam Ryan, who also caught three fish with a total length of 34".

Thanks go to all our sponsors who provided the fantastic prizes.

DM

Back-to-back promotions down to hard work and community spirit says Llantwit Major manager

LLANTWIT MAJOR AFC's second consecutive promotion wasn't something the club had planned for says their manager Karl Lewis.

The club's first-place finish is the highest league finish in the clubs history, having never played higher than the Welsh League Division Two.

Major have won back-to-back promotions having won the Division Three title last season, with only Barry Town United, Cardiff Metropolitan University and Llanelli Town the only other sides to win consecutive promotions in recent years.

This Division Two title win, however, wasn't planned by the club, with safety in the league a likelier target at the start of the season.

Lewis said: "I'm immensely proud of the achievement as it wasn't something we as a club sat down and planned for,"

"Our aim was just to compete this season but the boys have been fantastic all year and surprised a lot of doubters wrong.

I'm not sure there are too many other teams to win the two divisions back to back."

With seven games in the space of 22 days after a fixture backlog which has seen a high amount of games called off this season, Llantwit managed to come through the gruelling set of fixtures with an impressive unbeaten record.

They picked up points at Ammanford and Aberbargoed Buds, as well as securing the league title against promotion rivals and fellow divisional new boys STM Sports.

Major's squad includes former Welsh Premier League footballer Anthony Rawlings and highly-rated forward Sam Snaith.

Major's only defeats of the season came to lowly West End and two defeats to Caldicot Town.

"The amount of fixtures were difficult but the boys pulled together and squad rotation allowed individuals to get some rest.

"Since we started at Llantwit we have always relished playing top teams and have very rarely lost.

"I feel we set ourselves up to be a difficult team to beat so we look forward to the games against the top teams as they give us a chance to prove ourselves."

An ingredient in Major's success has been the community feel that the club believes it has, with a big crowd turning up to Windmill Lane, basking in the sunshine as they closed in on the Division Two title.

The club managed to raise enough money through fundraising to begin ground improvements, including a new stand and a path for supporters.

Major are the only team out of the three promoted sides to remain at the ground they achieved promotion with, as both Ammanford and Pontypridd Town have scheduled moves to Briton Ferry Llansawel's Old Road and Leckwith Stadium, respectively.

"It's a community club and everyone works hard together to make sure we continue to grow as a club - this is proven by achieving the licence. It would have been a travesty if we had to ground share as we would lose our identity and lose the local supporters.

"The community spirit has definitely helped us in the last two months, the players have been worn out but the support from everyone has driven their want to achieve.

"There are too many people to thank but I hope they realise they all played a huge part in our achievements."

Promotion to Division One has provided Major with the opportunity to meet with Penybont, who are based just nine miles away from Llantwit.

Although not an official derby, there have been a number of players swap between clubs over the years.

One person from Bridgend though is Lewis himself, who supports Penybont unless playing against his Major side.

The game against Penybont has been earmarked as one of the games he's not looking forward to, praising the stature of the club and the man at the helm, Rhys Griffiths.

"I'm not sure it's a local derby but some people might make it a derby like atmosphere due to our past connections with Penybont.

"On a personal note, It's one game I won't be looking forward too as Penybont are an established outfit with a very experienced leader who will be looking to win the league next year.

"Both games will be extremely difficult as Bont are now a very professional club who rightly have ambitions to play in the Welsh Premier League."

Major are one of the youngest sides in the league and are led by one of the youngest managers, in UEFA C Licence candidate Karl.

However, the experience that he has brought to the game outside of the qualification has seen them topple Barry Town United in the Welsh Cup, as well as two back-to-back title wins, with Major just one division away from the top flight.

"I think our achievements show people (players and me) need opportunities to prove themselves and we were lucky to get that opportunity at Llantwit.

"I think it also shows that young managers don't need achieve licences or badges - they can be gained on the job. Teams should look to give opportunities to more young managers with fresh ideas and more relatable links to players."

JORDAN JONES

Concerns are raised over new MOT rules

OCCASIONALLY, the question of what constitutes British values crops up.

Fair play? Sure. Belief in the rule of law? Of course. Democracy? Naturally...

Never included, however, is 'optimism'. Odd, because the UK is populated by the most optimistic people on the planet.

Here's why.

We live on a rock in the eastern Atlantic Ocean, with only the English Channel separating Europe – and its eternally sunny skies and dry days – from us, and it rains here.

A lot, in fact, especially along the western coast of the UK, including Wales.

Yet more convertibles are bought and owned in Blighty than in France, Spain, and Italy.

That is optimism.

Blessed as we have been with three consecutively pleasantly dry and sunny bank holiday weekends, and with classic car show season upon us, many have removed the covers from their Morgans, Spitfires and E-Types, or taken the hard top off the MX5 or MG TF, for some al-fresco driving*.

Not all older or classic vehicles are roadsters – or even have four wheels – but for owners of vehicles that may take to the road for only a few months a year, a new MOT test came in last month. Same gen applies, though, to all vehicles over three years old.

It's not all bad news, though.

Last week's GEM featured garage manager of Bridgend's Avia Autos Hayley Pells, a nominee for a Chwaere Teg award. With her name and credentials in mind, we asked for an explanation of the rules in response to a couple of letters and news releases received.

She began: "There is a lot of speculation as to if the new test will be 'harder' for the motorist.

"But the new test is not to trip motorists up, rather it has tidied up a lot of loose ends and brought up to date the testing criteria to consider technology that wasn't so common place before. The new test presents results differently to the motorist, giving advice about the road worthiness of the vehicle and if it is advisable to drive the vehicle in order to make repairs.

"Another significant change to the test is the total absence of testing for vehicles of historic interest."

There; good news.

Hayley sheds light on the subject of lamps and bulbs.

"The new lamp testing criteria (for some cars registered at after specific dates) will now include front fog lamps, daytime running lights and the reversing light.

"Many motorists forget to check bulbs, and now there are more bulbs to check this will provide more reasons for rejection."

She said that it is an area for the motorist to save themselves time and money by checking all bulbs are operational before presenting for test.

Hayley cautions over tyre pressure monitoring systems (TPMS), too.

"As with lights, correct tyre pressure can be something that motorists find difficult to check and adjust. "A failure for this could be hugely frustrating for owners of cars with expensive tyre valves as the tyre pressure can be correct, but if a standard valve is fitted, thus illuminating the TPMS light, this will be a reason for rejection (RFR)."

The presence of an Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) is now reason to fail an MOT.

"This is a curious situation as the RFR may then be on an item that isn't included in the test, such as a body control module. Even if the fault is diagnosed and it is found not to be a testable item, the vehicle will still fail the MOT."

Hayley said that new smoke limits for diesel engines are tougher than before.

"Smoke limits have had a lot of coverage in the press and if a diesel car pushes out an unreasonable amount of smoke on the first press of the accelerator, it can be an immediate fail.

"The new smoke limits may effect how many cars are able to pass, but the DVSA notified all test centres of a workaround for not having the correct equipment for the new standards, providing it can be proved that the updated equipment/software is on order."

Some good news, some less so, but for full details, visit www.gov.uk.

*Some of use drive topless all year, as long as it's not raining.

AJ

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16 65 BMW 420D XDRIVE D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr (190bhp), BMW warranty Feb 2019, widescreen sat nav, Bluetooth, privacy glass, full leather, 23k, grey **£19995**
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15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr automatic (190bhp) M Sport+ pack, 19"alloys, Harman kardon, wide screen nav, choice, full leather £15995
15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr automatic, M Sport+ Pack, pro sat nav, 19"alloys, 32k, estoril blue, full leather £20995
15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr convertible automatic, BMW warranty Sep 2018, 19"alloys, head-up display, 25k, grey, full beige leather £22995
11 61 BMW 520 DSE 4dr, alloys, PDC, blue, full leather ..£9495
15 65 BMW 640 D SE Gran Coupe 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2018, electric glass sunroof, sat nav, DAB, 36k, silver, full leather £22995
15 65 BMW 640 D M Sport 2dr coupe automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2018, 20"alloys, sat nav, Bluetooth, 15k, black, full leather £25995
16 16 DS DS4 1.6 BlueHDI Crossback 5dr, Citroen warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 18"alloys, 19k, met red, half leather £10995
16 65 DS DS5 1.6 BlueHDI Elegance 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, 18"alloys, pdc, met blue £10995
16 16 FIAT 500 1.2 Pop Star 3dr, air-con, alloys, 18k, met grey.. ....£6995
16 16 FORD ECOSPORT 1.0 T ecoBOOST Tiatnium 5dr, Ford warranty June 2019, 17"alloys, cruise,8k, white, half-leather £10795
15 65 FORD FIESTA 1.0 T EcoBoost Zetec Red Edition 3dr, Ford warranty Oct 2018, 17"alloys, 25k, red £9495
16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.6 Ti-VCT Titanium 5dr Powershift, Ford warranty Oct 2019, PDC, Bluetooth, alloys, 9k, blue....£11795
15 15 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, deep impact blue £8995
16 16 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec S 5dr, Bluetooth, 17"alloys, met blue £11495
13 63 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI Zetec 5dr, Bluetooth, DAB, blue £6495
15 15 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI Titanium Estate, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, blue £8995
16 16 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr (Appearance Pack) Ford warranty April 2019, sat nav, cruise, DAB, 16k, blue, half leather £14995
16 16 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Vignale Estate, Ford warranty April 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, power tailgate, black, full leather £16495
16 66 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, alloys, silver £13795
15 65 HYUNDAI TUSCON 1.7 CRDI Blue Drive SE Nav 5dr, sat nav, Hyundai warranty October 2020, Bluetooth, heated seats, 22k, choice £12995
14 64 JAGUAR XF 2.2 D Premium Luxury 4dr automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 32k, white, full leather £16795
15 15 KIA CEED 1.4 SR7 5dr, Kia warranty until Aug 2022, Bluetooth, PDC, 25k, white £8295
15 15 KIA CEED 1.6 CRDI 3 Estate, Kia warranty August 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, white £8995
15 65 KIA PICANTO 1.2 CHILLI Eco Dynamics 3dr, Kia warranty Jan 2023, PDC, privacy glass, Bluetooth, USB, 15k, white, half leather £7995
14 14 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI ISG 2 5dr, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, 44k, silver, half leather £10995
15 15 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 1 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty March 2022, cruise, bluetooth, USB, 22k, white £11995
16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI Axis Edition 5dr, Kia warranty April 2023, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 18k, choice, full leather £14495
16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 1 5dr (New Model) Kia warranty March 2023, Bluetooth, aircon, 19k, black....£13495
15 15 MAZDA 6 2.2 TD SE-L 4dr automatic, cruise, Bluetooth, PDC, 18k, blue £12995
15 15 MAZDA 6 2.2 TD Sport Nav Estate automatic, 19"alloys, sat nav, black, full leather £11995
15 15 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 TD Sport Nav 2WD 5dr, sat nav, bose, cruise, silver, full leather £12995
14 64 MERCEDES A180 CDI Sport 5dr 7G-DCT, cruise, Bluetooth, black £11995
15 65 MERCEDES A180 D Sport Edition 5dr 7G-DCT automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, full leather, 25k, choice..£14495
15 64 MERCEDES C220 CDI BlueTEC Sport 4dr 7G-Tronic Plus, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, full leather £13995
15 15 MERCEDES C250 CDI AMG Sport 2dr coupe 7G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty Sep 2018, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 15k, silver, half leather £15995
16 16 MERCEDES C250d AMG Line 2dr 9G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty June 2019, pan roof, sat nav, 18k, black, full leather £26995
15 15 MERCEDES CLA220 CDI Sport 4dr 7G-DCT, 18"alloys, Bluetooth, cruise, 33k, grey, half leather £16995
15 65 MERCEDES CLA220 CDI AMG Sport 4dr 7G-DCT, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, 18"alloys, 19k, red £20495
12 62 MERCEDES E220 CDI SE 2dr convertible, 17"alloys, cruise, grey, full leather £12995
13 63 MERCEDES E220 CDI AMG Sport Cabriolet 7G-Tronic Plus, sat nav, airscarf heating, MET BLUE, full leather £16995
15 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTec AMG Night Edition 4dr 7-G Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty March 2019, sat nav, privacy glass, 22k, choice, full leather £17995
16 16 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Night Editon 7G-Tronic plus Estate, Mercedes warranty April 2019, sat nav, DAB Bluetooth, choice, full leather £18995
13 13 MERCEDES E250 CDI Blueefficiency Sport 4dr 7G-Tronic Automatic, heated seats, privacy glass, silver, full leather£11995
14 64 MERCEDES E250 CDI AMG Sport 4dr 7G-Tronic plus, panoramic roof, sat nav, 13k, silver, half leather/alcantara£18995
13 13 MERCEDES SLK250 CDI AMG Sport 2dr convertible automatic, 18"alloys, 34k, black, full leather £13995
16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 D COOPER 6dr, sat nav, chilli pack, 10k, white £13795
13 62 MINI COOPER 1.6 S 2dr convertible (Chili Pack) alloys, 31k, white, half leather £9495
16 16 MINI HATCH 1.5 COOPER 5dr (Chili & Media XL Pack) Mini warranty April 2019, sat nav, 17"black alloys, 33k, silver, half leather £12495
15 15 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr(Chili & Media XL Pack) Mini warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, 19k, met blue, half-leather..£10995
15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr (Chili Pack) Mini warranty Dec 2018, Bluetooth, alloys, DAB, BRG £9295
14 64 MINI COUPE 1.6 Cooper 2dr, chilli + TLC pack, 17"alloys, heated seats, 25k, white, half-leather....£7995
14 14 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI N-TEC 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, Bluetooth, met blue £7995
15 64 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, Bluetooth, 32k, yellow, full leather £9495
16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, Nissan warranty May 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 18k, grey, full leather £10995
15 64 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-TEC 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 18"alloys, black £11995
15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Acenta 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, white £10995
16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr, Nissan warranty April 2019, panoramic roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 23k, black £14295
17 17 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna XTRONIC 5dr automatic, Nissan warranty April 2020, sat nav, pan roof, 19"alloys, met red £16995
16 16 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr (7-Seater), sat nav, pan roof, 9k, met grey, full leather £18495
15 65 PEUGEOT 108 1.2 Pure Tech Allure 3dr, Bluetooth, reverse camera, alloys, 25k,black £6295
15 15 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 THP GTI 3dr (200bhp) Peugeot warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, pan roof, 12k, white, half leather £10795
16 16 PEUGEOT 2008 1.2 PureTech Access 5dr, Peugeot warranty May 2019, Bluetooth, aircon, 9k, grey £8995
15 15 PEUGEOT 3008 2.0 HDI Allure 5dr, sat nav, panoramic roof, 33k, black £11495
12 62 PEUGEOT RCZ 1.6 THP Sport 2dr coupe, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 42k, grey £7495
15 64 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI Energy Dynamique MediaNav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, 36k, met red....£6995
14 64 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Media Nav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, 17"alloys, choice £7995
15 15 SEAT IBIZA 1.4 Toca 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, PDC, 22k, red £6795
17 67 SEAT LEON 1.6 TDI SE Dynamic Technology Estate, Seat warranty Sep 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, PDC, 7k, grey £13995
16 16 SKODA YETI OUTDOOR 2.0 TDI SCR SE L 5dr, Skoda warranty May 2019, 17"alloys, cruise, 9k, silver, full leather £13495
15 65 SMART FORFOUR 1.0 Prime Premium 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, 6k, choice, full leather £6995
16 16 VAUXHALL ADAM 1.4 VVTI Slam 3dr, Vauxhall warranty July 2019, 17"alloys, privacy glass, 19k, grey, half leather£8495
14 64 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 I 16V Sting 3dr, 17"alloys, met green £4795
15 65 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 CDTI Tech Line 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Dec 2018, sat nav, cruise, 23k, white £10995
15 15 VW PASSAT 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech SE Business Estate, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth , PDC, silver £12495
15 15 VW POLO 1.4 TSI BlueMotion Tech ACT BlueGT 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, 17"alloys, 19k, met blue.....£12495
15 65 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GTD 5dr, VW warranty Jan 2019, sat nav, heated seats, PDC, silver, 21k...£15995
16 16 VW SCIROCCO 1.4 TSI BlueMotion Tech GT 3dr, VW warranty April 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, PDC, 19k, white £14795

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.0 ecoBOOST Zetec S 5dr automatic (150bhp), Ford warranty Oct 2019, DAB, Bluetooth, 10k, white **£11995**

16 16 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 THP GTI Prestige 3dr, Peugeot warranty April 2019, sat nav, DAB, heated seats, 14k, orange **£12495**

14 64 ALFA ROMEO GIULIETTA 1.6 JTDM-2 Exclusive 5dr, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, black **£8495**

14 14 HONDA CIVIC 1.6 I-DTEC SR Estate, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 27k, silver, full leather **£11495**

16 16 CITROEN C4 CACTUS 1.6 BlueHDI Flair Edition 5dr, Citroen warranty April 2019, sat nav, insulated pan roof, silver **£8995**

14 14 BMW 220 D M Sport 2dr coupe, cruise, Bluetooth, DAB, 35k, blue **£13995**

14 14 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI Titanium X 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather **£7295**

16 16 MERCEDES C220d AMG Line Premium 2dr 9G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty April 2019, panoramic roof, sat nav, 18"alloys, 19k, white, full leather **£26495**

15 15 MINI CONVERTIBLE 1.6 COOPER D 2dr convertible (Chili & Media XL Pack) sat nav, heated seats, 34k, silver **£11995**

15 15 MINI HATCH 1.2 ONE 3dr (Pepper Pack) Bluetooth, DAB, black **£8495**

13 63 BMW 535 D M Sport Estate automatic, M Sport + pack, panoramic roof, soft close doors, pro nav, grey, full leather **£18995**

15 15 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 GDI 2 5dr, Kia warranty June 2022, electric sunroof, cruise, PDC, white, half leather **£12495**

14 14 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, USB, choice **£5295**

15 65 MERCEDES A180 CDI SE 5dr, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, Bluetooth, USB, black, half leather **£12495**

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63 HYUNDAI ix35 1.7 Diesel SE-Nav In white, 57,000 miles, under manufacturers warranty **£9,795**
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63 VW Polo 1.4 Match Edition In black, 22,000 miles, very nice example **£7,995**
62 HONDA Civic I-D Tec ES 2.2 Diesel. In urban titanium, 38,000 miles, £30 road tax **£7,995**
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64 FORD Focus 1.6 Diesel Titanium-Nav Estate In silver, 76,000 miles, £20 road tax **£7,995**
57 MERCEDES SLK 200K Auto 1.8cc In silver with red leather seats, only 79,000 miles, electric hardtop roof.....**£7,495**
66 MG3 Time VTi Tech 1.5cc 5-Dr Only 4,000 miles, manufacturer warranty..... **Reduced to £5,995**
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14 ALFA ROMEO Mito, twin air, sportiva, 3Dr In metallic black, 45,000 miles, free road tax ..**£6,995**
63 KIA Rio 2 1.2 3-Dr In silver, only 11,000 miles from new **£6,995**
13 CITROEN DS3 1.6 Style+ In white/black roof, 19,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£6,995**
10 SEAT Leon 2.0 Diesel TDi FR 5-Dr In black, 48,000 miles, 2 owners, 170 bhp **£6,995**
61 MINI One 1.6 in red, 34,000 miles, very nice example at.....**£6,795**
13 VOLKSWAGEN High Up 1.0 5-Dr In white, 24,000 miles, £20 road tax, sat nav etc **£6,795**
64 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SE 5-Dr In met grey, 44,000 miles, a/c, etc **£6,495**
64 VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 Diesel SRi 5-Dr In black, 48,000 miles **£6,495**
12 SEAT Leon Copa 1.6 TDi SE 5-Dr In black, 49,000 miles, sat nav etc.....**£6,495**
61 FORD C-Max 1.6 Diesel TDCi Titanium In Denim Blue, 69,000 miles, high specification **£6,495**
11 FORD S-Max 2.0 Diesel TDCi Zetec 7-Seater Automatic In Spruce Green, 95,000 miles..**£6,495**
09 MINI Cooper S Convertible 1.6cc In midnight black, 52,000 miles, heated leather seats, bluetooth, stop/start.....**£6,295**
64 SKODA Fabia 1.2 SE 5-Dr In white, 33,000 miles, full Skoda history.....**£5,995**
63 FIAT 500S 1.2 in midnight indigo, 32,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,995**
13 SUZUKI Splash SZ4 1.2 Automatic 5-Dr In silver, 44,000 miles **£5,995**
12 MAZDA 6 TS 1.8, 5Dr in clearwater blue, 45,000 miles, one owner **£5,995**
61 HYUNDAI IX35 Style 2WD 1.7 CRDI in silver, 52,000 miles, two owners **£5,995**
07 LEXUS iS 220D SE In met-grey with full beige leather, 37,000 miles, 1 owner **£5,995**
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11 PEUGEOT 508 Active 1.6 HDi In Alpine Blue, 53,000 miles, large hatchback.....**£5,495**
56 MAZDA MX-5 Sport 2.0 CC In Black, 73,000 miles, hard top electric roof, heated leather seats..**£5,495**
61 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.7 Diesel CDTi SRi 5-Dr In red, 55,000 miles.....**£5,495**
61 ALFA ROMEO Mito 1.4 Automatic Distinctive 3-Dr In etna black, 51,000 miles **£5,495**
61 RENAULT Scenic 1.5 diesel Dynamique TomTom In metallic sand gold, 52,000 miles **£5,495**
61 SEAT Ibiza SE Copa 1.4 3-Dr, silver, 41,000 miles, 1 owner **£5,295**
60 MAZDA 3TS 1.6 5-Dr In electric blue, 58,000 miles, 2 owners, very nice example at.....**£5,295**
11 VAUXHALL Corsa SE 1.4 5-Dr. In black, 51,000 miles, h/leather, heated seats, heated steering wheel **£5,295**
59 SKODA Octavia 1.4 TSi Elegance Auto. in met blue, only 51,000 miles **£5,495**
10 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Titanium 3-Dr In electric blue, 51,000 miles, bluetooth, £20 road tax **£4,995**
61 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Edge (60) 3-Dr In black, 25,000 miles, excellent throughout **£4,995**
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09 SEAT Ibiza Sport 1.4 5-Dr. In met. grey, only 42,000 miles, 1 owner **£4,495**
61 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Excite 5-Dr In black, 66,000 miles, low insurance **£4,295**
12 FORD Fiesta Edge 1.4 TDCi 3-Dr. In Colorado Red, 71,000 miles, £20 road tax **£4,295**
10 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Exclusive 5-Dr In met grey, 81,000 miles **£4,295**
09 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Diesel TDCi Style+ 5-Dr In black, 62,000 miles, low running costs **£3,995**
08 MAZDA 3 Takara 1.6, 5Dr In copper red, 48,000 miles, two owners **£3,695**
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In pearl white, only 14,000 miles and 1 owner
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In smooth mint green, 5,000 miles, glass roof, £20 road tax
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NEWS FROM ON AND OFF THE TURF WITH BRIAN LEE

ADAM Wedge, stable jockey to Llancarfan's Evan Williams, notched-up a double for his guvnor at Ffos Las last Thursday evening.

Adam, one of the leading riders at the Welsh track, landed the Scarlets Selling Hurdle on Old Salt which won by a neck from the odds-on Wells Of Lune and in the closing Walters Handicap Hurdle he partnered the six-year-old Marble Moon to a three and a half lengths win over Kayf Charmer.

Old Salt was a 11-4 chance and Marble Moon was returned at odds of 7-2, while Williams is the leading trainer at Ffos Las.

The talented Sean Bowen rode a winner for his father Pembrokeshire trainer Peter Bowen when scoring on 6-1 shot Atomic Rumble.

ISABEL LANDS LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP

Cowbridge's Isabel Williams has won the Welsh ladies' point-to-point championship and is also in contention for the national Fuller's women novices' championship.

She was in action at the Pembrokeshire last Saturday and despite a fall from Burn Baby Byrne which fell after finishing a close second in the restricted race she took third place on Aerlite Supreme in the ladies' open and amassed more points throughout the season than her main rival, the reigning champion Pembrokeshire's Jodie Hughes.

GIBBS FOUR-TIMES... AGAIN!

Bradley Gibbs,24, landed his second four-timer of the season at the Pembrokeshire Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Trecoed last Saturday which saw the end of the 2018 Welsh season.

He took the opening hunt members, subscribers and farmers race on the odds-on TheGirlFromMilan, which won by one and a half lengths from Hospital.

Then around 40 minutes later in the restricted race on Dai Rees' Buck Bravo, which jumped the last alongside Burn Baby Byrne (Isabel Williams), he got home by a short head.

Win number three came in the open maiden race when Dai Rees' PersistantPrincess so often the bridesmaid came home some 10 lengths ahead of the pacemaking Which Sky (Mark Robinson) despite a mistake at the penultimate fence.

Bradley's fourth winner came in the closing intermediate race on the 6-4 favourite Yeats Ace who made nearly all the running to win by 13 lengths from Desert Roe (Jack Tudor).

Yeats Ace, a six-year-old bay mare by Yeats, is owned by stalwarts Clive and Carol Banwell and trained by Bradley's father David.

Now that her jumping has improved Yeats Ace could find herself in the line up in next year's Chepstow Dunraven Bowl.

The GirlFromMilan trained by Bradley's father David has finished for the season but Buck Bravo and PersistantPrincess will be running under Rules for Dai Rees who certainly knows how to get the best out of his charges.

Only four faced the starter for the ladies' open race but it was a close affair with the Mickey Bowen trained Kelsey, partnered by Jodie Hughes, 34, who had jumped the last alongside Tiger Rag (Anna Lewis) who was judged, after quite a long time, to have finished a short head in front of Tiger Rag with the favourite Aerlite Supreme ridden by Isabel Williams, 20, a further six lengths away. Isabel is the new Welsh ladies' champion and is also in the running for the national novices' riders' title.

The delay in announcing the result was apparently caused by a break down in the public address system.

There were only four bookmakers in attendance and two of them - James Lovell and Simon Smith - like some other racegoers, thought that Tiger Rag had won and paid out punters before the official weigh-in.

At least the punter who backed Tiger Rag with Lovell had the decency to return his 'winnings'. However, of the 10 people who backed Tiger Rag with Smith, only one of them revisited him.

One of the easiest winners of the Welsh season must surely be Kevin Salter's 10-year-old Spencer Moon, who always in command and came home an official 20 lengths winner of the four horse men's open under Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft.

It was clearly a case of Spencer Moon first and the rest nowhere but for the record Kinari (Peter Ryan) was second and the mare Frelia (Bradley Gibbs) third. "He just keeps improving," said Moorcroft on dismounting.

Spencer Moon, a 10-year-old bay gelding, who is by Dr Massini, was winning for the fourth time on the bounce and could be Stratford-bound.

Foxy, ridden by Russell Evans, beat his sole rival to take the Pembrokeshire Hunt mixed scurry and the 138 cms pony race went to the nine-year-old bay mare Little Replacement, ridden by 10-year-old Edward Vaughan from Aberthin in the Vale.

The 148 cms open pony race was won by Blaze N Daze, a 10-year-old bay mare partnered by 13-year-old Daniel Ellis.

BYRON SCORES AGAIN

TWENTY-FOUR hours after winning the Pembrokeshire Hunt mens open race on the Keiron Price-trained Spencer Moon, Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft landed the Timico Mixed Open race on the same trainer's Ramble On at the Bicester Point-To-Point, beating the odds-on favourite Aupcharlie ridden by Alex Edwards.

At Fakenham, Ogmore-by-Sea's Christian Williams saddled Fifty Shades, winner of the opening Handicap Hurdle. Fifty Shades, at five the youngest horse in the race, was ridden by James Bowen and was made an odds-on favourite.

James' older brother Sean was in action at far-flung Perth where he won two races for his father Peter Bowen, who trains at Haverfordwest. He won the novices' chase on Curious Carlos and the £25,024 Perth Gold Cup on Henllan Harri.

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

Ladies doubles finalists - winners Amanda Hole and Mickey Wilcox (right pair), runners-up Joan Burt and Hilarie (left pair).

Mens doubles finalists - winners Martin Thomas and Dave Cheal (left pair), runners-up Dai Thomas and Nick Smith (right pair).

ON Tuesday, May 29, 10 of the 11 teams in the league competed in the Captain's Cup, hosted by the Edmondes Arms.

The winner was Steve Simmonite from the Edmondes A who defeated Ryan Gratton from the Six Bells Inn 3-1 in the final.

Ryan had defeated Oliver Ladbrooke-Davies in his semi-final, while Steve had defeated Mike O'Leary.

It was an excellent night for Steve who also hit a 111 out.

Oliver Ladbrooke-Davies (One Town Hall Square) hit the final 180 of the season.

The season concluded on Saturday, June 2 when the Llanharry Workingmen's club hosted finals night.

The ladies' doubles final was an all-Red Lion Inn affair and was won by Amanda Hole and Mickey Wilcox who defeated Hilarie Coles and Joan Burt 3-1.

The men's doubles final had an all-Edmondes B line-up in which Martin Thomas and Dave Cheal defeated Dai Thomas and Nick Smith, also by a 3-1 scoreline.

In the ladies' singles final, Katie George from the Victoria Inn defeated Shirley Evans from the Farmers Arms 3-1.

The evening games concluded with the men's singles final, Simon Perkins (Edmondes C) winning 3-0 against Steve Simmonite (Edmondes A).

Following the presentation of the silverware the evening concluded with a charity raffle.

This, along with other raffles held throughout the season, ensured the league raised £607 for this season's selected charity, Diabetes UK.

As we now take a summer break, matches will resume in September - please note, the league is always on the lookout for new teams and teams are always on the lookout for new players.

So anyone wishing to enter a team or to join a team for the 2018-2019 season is strongly encouraged to get in touch by e-mail at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com.

Up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Ladies singles finalists - winner Katie George (right), runner-up Shirley Evans.

Mens singles finalists - winner Simon Perkins (right), runner-up Steve Simmonite.

T20 team win, and under-9s enjoy festival!

COWBRIDGE continued their good form in the Vale midweek T20 league.

Local rivals Vale Cricket Club were the visitors to the Fred Dunn field.

On a grey evening, where rain threatened throughout, it was the turn of the Vale to bat first.

Two former Cowbridge players put their stamp on the game with Mark Francis scoring a delightful 55 runs belying his age, and Sean Rowlands 11.

Tight bowling by the five Cowbridge bowlers restricted Vale to 93 for 6 in their 20 allocated overs.

Best of the bowlers were Sami Khan (2 for 15) and Sam Russell (2 for 16) in their four overs apiece.

In reply Cowbridge had a slow start losing wickets cheaply to the excellent Alex Uppham (1 for 29) and James Thomas (2 for 15).

However, a well-controlled knock of 36 by Jack Cropper and breezy 23 from captain Joe Russell brought victory in the 15th over.

Cowbridge have a home cup match against Llantwit next week.

The third festival of the season for the under-9s was held in the delightful country setting of Miskin CC.

St Fagans withdrew from the competition leaving the host team to play a round robin formation against Cowbridge and Cardiff.

First up were Cowbridge and Cardiff where Cowbridge batted first and only lost one wicket in a score of 243.

Poor bowling, especially with wides, gifted Cardiff far too many runs as they scored 262 and earned victory.

While the other two teams played each other Cowridge undertook a serious training session especially with the bowling.

In fairness all the team improved that aspect in the second match against Miskin.

Wides were halved and wickets taken doubled to restrict Miskin to 226 runs.

In reply Cowbridge batted much better, losing only two wickets in scoring 271.

Thanks to all the parents for their support on a lovely sunny and friendly Sunday morning.

HW

Another win for the Vale seconds

ON the first weekend in June, on a lovely sunny day away in Creigiau, Vale CC seconds managed their fifth consecutive win in five games.

With over 30 players available for selection, the Vale team are currently highly motivated and performing at a great level.

Winning the toss, Vale controversially decided to bat first on a green sticky wicket, with a notable opening partnership of 72 between Matthew Thomas (captain) and Stephan Hiles and a further partnership of 71 between Thomas and Paul Sheppard.

Raj Chittineni was the pick for the Creigiau bowling, finishing with figures of 2 for 25 from his eight overs.

Thomas batted for 39 overs and finished with 116, with other noteworthy contributions from Mark Francis (23), and Paul Sheppard (22).

Vale completed their 40 overs with a very competitive score of 224 for 5, leaving Creigiau with much to chat over during the tea time break.

Creigiau came out with an assertive reply, looking to play some expansive shots; however Idris Merry (Vale) ripped through the top order, taking four wickets in his six over opening spell.

Wickets continued to tumble with the in-form Tom Lazarus picking up 2 for 14.

Vale continued to apply pressure with some fantastic catches and great fielding, the main resistance from Creigiau coming from the big-hitting Peter O'Hanlon, finishing on a respectable 59.

With Vale looking to bowl Creigiau all out, Merry came back into the bowling attack to take the final wicket of the innings to finish with league-best figures of 5 for 12, ending the day with the Vale achieving a 109-run victory.

This weekend Vale seconds travel to Hopkinstown, looking to continue to build on their excellent start to the season.

MT

Belle Vue Bowling Club news

BELLE VUE played The Murch at Belle Vue in the Carruthers Shield, losing by 89 shots to 62 - Belle Vue were playing one man short, but it was nice seeing old friends from The Murch.

Rink one with only three players lost quite heavily, 41 shots to 9. Lead was Frank Keen, no 2 was Dave Huntley (playing his third game of bowls) and the skip was Paul Paterson.

Rink two won their rink 15 shots to 12 – lead was Dave Bradley, no 2 was Richard Brant, no 3 Alan Thomas and the skip was Trevor Ford.

Rink three won their rink 24 shots to 15; lead was Gerry Field, captain (first time); no 2 was Paul Booth, no 3 was Barrie Bagwell and the skip Dave Purser.

Rink four lost, 14 to 21; lead was Graham Duggan, no 2 was Dave Smith, no 3 was Dave Miller and the skip was Len Fowler.

The game was played in good spirit and with plenty of banter between old friends.

A good buffet tea was enjoyed by one and all.

A big thank you to Gerry Field for his first attempt as captain, and his running of things on the day.

FK

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Porthcawl RFC crown incredible season with presentation evening

ALL PICTURES BY TRACEY WILLAMS.

Player of the year, Ben Thomas.

ABOVE: First team captain Richard Hnyda. BELOW: The Nicholas Wintle Memorial Award went to Gavin Williams.

ABOVE: Head coach Rhys James.

LEFT: Players' player of the year Gareth Rees.

ABOVE: Player of the year second XV - James Burge-Davies.

Supporter of the year Jane Williams.

ABOVE: Clubman of the year - Mike Gubb.

ABOVE: Most improved second XV player - Ben Jones.

Youth clubman of the year - Nat Rees.

ABOVE: Rising star award winner Will Lampard.

PORTHCAWL RFC crowned the best season in the club's long and proud history, with a rather special celebration dinner, out on the field inside a fine marquee, without a seat to spare.

With the season having seen the achieving of a famous rugby 'double' of league and WRU Bowl, all who attended were able to revel in the knowledge that no team had probably done better this season.

Guest speaker, former Wales and Lions scrum-half Brynmor Williams, who gave a rousing and fantastically humorous speech, was quick to point out the reality of the remarkable statistics: played 22, won 21, losing only the one match by a mere three points, scoring the fourth highest points total across the whole of the WRU Leagues, while yielding a paltry 113 points, an average of just 5.13 points per match, an incredible statistic.

Yet more remarkable, as alluded to by the WRU in their recent Twitter and website feature on Porthcawl, was the fact that with just 13 tries given away in total in 22 League matches, this was the best by any team in the whole of the WRU League structure, a quite astonishing achievement.

When one adds to this the fact that the Seaweeds had to play in every round of the WRU Bowl, unlike some other sides that enjoyed byes, ending up with a fantastic win in the televised final in Cardiff's Principality Stadium, the scale of the season's overall achievement cannot be overstated.

Player of the year was the ever-resourceful and versatile Ben Thomas, whose performances at full-back, scrum-half and outside-half were regularly something to behold, with his rugby vision, assured and often deft handling skills and kicking, both at goal and out of the hand in attack, made him a worthy recipient.

Players' player was Gareth Rees, whose try-scoring feats became almost the norm as the season progressed, with a number of hat-trick try-scoring performances, not forgetting his remarkable match-winning try in the semi-final win over Abercwmboi in the WRU Bowl.

The following people also picked up awards:

Most improved player first XV – second row Will Robinson; *chairman's award for supporter of the year* – Jane Williams; *clubman of the year* – Mike Gubb; *player of the year second XV* – James Burge-Davies; *most improved player second XV* – Ben Jones; *rising star award* – jointly awarded to Ethan Walsh and Will Lampard.

Skipper Richard Hnyda also received a specially made Grogg of himself in Porthcawl colours from the chairman, Cliff Hopkins, in recognition of his outstanding leadership and achievement for this most successful season in Porthcawl RFC history.

Mention was made too of the people whose volunteering efforts helped make it all a success, while asking for new volunteers to join the ranks and help the club move onwards and upwards.

The event was a resounding success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who came.

So, it's on to Division 2 West Central for Porthcawl now, following this second successive promotion season, and with a number of youth XV players moving up into senior ranks next season, that can only bode well for the future.

PF

Bridgend Bridge Club

THE latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows.

On Wednesday, May 30: first, Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner; second, Ann Fox and Irene Thomas; third, Tony Haworth and Kevin Maddox, and Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham, and John Beard and Liam Sheridan. The winners on handicap were Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner.

On Thursday, May 31: first, Mike Williams and Gareth Jenkins; second, Emer Disley and Linda Jenkins; third, Clive Edwards and Barry Collins. The winners on handicap were Clive Edwards and Barry Collins.

On Friday, June 1, the Cheese and Wine charity night: first, Tony Haworth and Emer Disley; second, Vida Halford and Glyn William; third, Dave and Debbie Lea. The winners on handicap were Vida Halford and Glyn William.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton church hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm, to enable a prompt start it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Nolton church hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

Lessons for beginners are being run by Steve Burgoyne, contact Steve for further details on 01656 661968 or David Newman 01656 649138.

Blue Bulls bounce back

BRIDGEND Blue Bulls bounced back from their defeat at the weekend by overcoming a valiant Cardiff Athletic side 30-20 at Glamorgan Wanderers last Wednesday night.

Nicky Giles slipped through the Cardiff defence to give Bridgend a 15th minute lead, converting his own try. Stuart Robson went over in the corner to increase the lead to 10-0.

Cardiff got back into the game after half an hour when Jack Perry made a clean break to the line to score. Morgan Cochrane converted.

Nathan Hawkins broke through for Bridgend's third to increase the score to 14-6 but Cardiff hit back again with a Morgan Rowlands try right on half-time to make it a four-point game before getting the leveler 12 minutes into the second half.

However they were only level for less than two minutes.

Brodie Watkins made a powerful run to the line to give Bridgend the lead back.

Dan Forrester increased the advantage with a try that Giles converted to take the score up to 24-14 to Bridgend, but Cardiff weren't finished yet, Rowlands going over for his hat-trick and Cochrane converting.

Bridgend sealed the win three minutes from the end after Hawkins scored his second and Giles converted.

IG

Porthcawl Bridge Club news

THE club recently held the McAllister Trophy competition, for a trophy donated by the late Don McAllister, who, from the 1930s to 1950s, was one of the most prestigious bridge player in Wales.

Don, a major in the Royal Army Service Corps, before establishing himself as a local accountant, was also a keen golfer and poker player. This year's event was won by Emer Disley and Debbie Lea.

Other results from the club are: Thursday, May 24 - First – Rob Charlesworth & John Beard; Second – Keith Davison & John Beard. Saturday, May 26, the McAllister Trophy - First – Emer Disley & Debbie Lea; Second – Janet Richards & Trish Saunders. Thursday, May 31 - First – Connie Dick & Janet Richards; Second – Terry Dolan & Roger Plant.

The club meets twice a week at the Awel-y-Mor centre - Thursdays 6.45pm-9.45pm, and Saturdays 3pm-6pm, visitors welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call our secretary, Trish, on 01656 785794.

TH